

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION**

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**Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification
and Waste Discharge Requirements
for Discharge of Dredged and/or Fill Materials**

**PROJECT: Gobernadora Scour Protection and Habitat
Restoration Project
Certification Number R9-2019-0128
WDID: 9000003427**

Reg. Meas. ID: 428970
Place ID: 856321
Party ID: 297330
Person ID: 73367

**APPLICANT: Rancho Mission Viejo
28811 Ortega Highway
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675**

ACTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> Order for Low Impact Certification	<input type="checkbox"/> Order for Denial of Certification
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order for Technically-conditioned Certification	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment in Isolated Waters Order No. 2004-004-DWQ
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrollment in SWRCB GWDR Order No. 2003-017-DWQ	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

An application dated February 12, 2019 was submitted by Rancho Mission Viejo (hereinafter Applicant), for Water Quality Certification pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act (United States Code (USC) Title 33, section 1341) for the proposed Gobernadora Scour Protection and Habitat Restoration Project (Project). The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) deemed the application to be complete on May 9, 2019. The Applicant proposes to discharge dredged or fill material to waters of the United States and/or State associated with construction activity at the Project site. The Applicant has also applied for a Clean Water Act section 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the Project (USACE File No. SPL-2019-00158-ERS) in accordance with the Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) Letter of Permission procedures.

The Project is located within the City of San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, California, Rancho Mission Viejo, east of La Pata Avenue. The Project center reading is located at latitude 33.52514 and longitude -117.59495. The Applicant has paid all required application fees for this Certification in the amount of \$1,638.00. On May 9, 2019, the San Diego Water Board provided public notice of the Project application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 by posting information describing the Project on the San Diego Water Board's web site and providing a period of twenty-one days for public review and comment. No comments were received.

The Applicant proposes to protect a streambed segment which was initially damaged by storm water discharges in December 2010 and continues to experience erosion and threats of damage. The Project consists of the following: 1) scour protection in order to stabilize this segment of the tributary and prevent head cutting that would undermine the Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) South County 60 inch-pipeline located in an adjacent ranch road, the ranch road itself, and other RMV utilities also located in the road; and 2) installation of un-grouted riprap, gabions, and enviro-flex pavers, which will be covered or filled with soil and planted with native vegetation.

The scour protection portion of the project consists of grading to create positive drainage, installation of enviroflex to stabilize the slopes, installation of rock gabions and loose rip-rap to protect the tributary channel bottom, creation of a berm from grouted and un-grouted rip-rap to channel overland flood flows to the tributary, replacement of an existing 16 inch pipe that conveys water under the existing ranch road, construction of a headwall for said pipe, paving of a section of the existing ranch road and installation of a cable rail fence for safety purposes. Ungrouted rip-rap will be placed in waters of the United States and/or State, covered in soil, and revegetated with native plant species. Gabions, riprap, and Enviroflex pavers used in the Project design will be covered with soil and replanted to establish native habitat.

The Project application includes a description of the design objective, operation, and degree of treatment expected to be attained from equipment, facilities, or activities (including construction and post-construction BMPs) to treat waste and reduce runoff or other effluents which may be discharged. Compliance with the Certification conditions will help ensure that construction and post-construction discharges from the Project will not cause on-site or off-site downstream erosion, damage to downstream properties, or otherwise damage stream habitats in violation of water quality standards in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9)* (Basin Plan).

Project construction will permanently impact 0.002 acre (19 linear feet) of riparian waters of the United States and/or State, and temporarily impact 0.004 acre (29 linear feet) of riparian waters of the United States and/or State. The Applicant reports that the Project purpose cannot be practically accomplished in a manner which would avoid or result in less adverse impacts to aquatic resources considering all potential practicable alternatives, such as the potential for alternate available locations, designs, reductions in size, configuration or density.

The Applicant reports that compensatory mitigation for the permanent loss of 0.002 acre of jurisdictional waters will be achieved through the establishment of 0.27 acres of waters of the United States and/or State. All waters of the United States and/or State receiving temporary discharges of fill material will be restored upon removal of the fill. The 0.27 acre of wetland establishment mitigation has been completed by the Applicant at the Gobernadora Ecological Restoration Area 2 (GERA 2) for 0.002-acre of permanent discharges of fill to waters of the United States and/or State at a ratio of 135:1 (area mitigated:area impacted). GERA 2 is located in the Canada Gobernadora hydrologic sub-area (HSA 901.24) (GERA 2 Mitigation Area Map Attachment 4, Exhibit 1) and is protected and preserved under a recorded conservation easement. Compensatory mitigation is being provided in a large contiguous area at the GERA 2 therefore compensatory mitigation for linear feet is not being calculated. GERA 2 is proposed for wetland mitigation because of the successful development of wetlands. The wetland sites are built in advance to compensate for project impacts already identified. This

reduces the time lag between the lost or reduced wetland functions from project related impacts and environmental compensation for those impacts.

Additional Project details are provided in Attachments 1 through 5 of this Certification.

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Attachments:

1. Definitions
2. Project Location Maps
3. Project Site Plans
4. Mitigation Figures
5. CEQA Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

The San Diego Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze the extent and nature of proposed Project impacts to the water quality and beneficial uses of waters of the United States and/or State and associated compensatory mitigation required to offset impacts attributed to the Project. In accordance with this Certification, the Applicant may proceed with the Project under the following terms and conditions:

I. STANDARD CONDITIONS

Pursuant to section 3860 of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, the following three standard conditions apply to all water quality certification actions:

- A. This Certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to section 13330 of the Water Code and chapter 28, article 6 (commencing with title 23, section 3867), of the California Code of Regulations.
- B. This Certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any discharge from any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent Certification application was filed pursuant to California Code of Regulations title 23, section 3855 subdivision (b), and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
- C. This Certification action is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under title 23, chapter 28 (commencing with section 3830) of California Code of Regulations and owed by the applicant.

II. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A. **Term of Certification.** Water Quality Certification No. R9-2019-0128 (Certification) shall expire upon a) the expiration or retraction of the Clean Water Act section 404 (33 USC Title 33, section 1344) permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for this Project, or b) five (5) years from the date of issuance of this Certification, whichever occurs first.
- B. **Duty to Comply.** The Applicant must comply with all conditions and requirements of this Certification. Any Certification noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Water Code and is grounds for enforcement action or Certification termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification.
- C. **General Waste Discharge Requirements.** The requirements of this Certification are enforceable through Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material that have Received State Water Quality Certification* (Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ). This provision shall apply irrespective of whether a) the federal permit for which the Certification was obtained is subsequently retracted or is expired, or b) the Certification is expired. Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ is accessible at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/gowdr401regulated_projects.pdf.

- D. **Project Conformance with Application.** All water quality protection measures and BMPs described in the application and supplemental information for water quality certification are incorporated by reference into this Certification as if fully stated herein. Notwithstanding any more specific conditions in this Certification, the Applicant shall construct, implement and comply with all water quality protection measures and BMPs described in the application and supplemental information. The conditions within this Certification shall supersede conflicting provisions within the application and supplemental information submitted as part of this Certification action.
- E. **Project Conformance with Water Quality Control Plans or Policies.** Notwithstanding any more specific conditions in this Certification, the Project shall be constructed in a manner consistent with the Basin Plan and any other applicable water quality control plans or policies adopted or approved pursuant to the Porter Cologne Water Quality Act (Division 7, commencing with Water Code Section 13000) or section 303 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC section 1313). The Basin Plan is accessible at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/index.shtml

- F. **Project Modification.** The Applicant must submit any changes to the Project, including Project operation, which would have a significant or material effect on the findings, conclusions, or conditions of this Certification, to the San Diego Water Board for prior review and written approval. If the San Diego Water Board is not notified of a significant change to the Project, it will be considered a violation of this Certification.
- G. **Certification Distribution Posting.** During Project construction, the Applicant must maintain a copy of this Certification at the Project site. This Certification must be available at all times to site personnel and agencies. A copy of this Certification shall also be provided to any contractor or subcontractor performing construction work, and the copy shall remain in their possession at the Project site.
- H. **Inspection and Entry.** The Applicant must allow the San Diego Water Board or the State Water Resources Control Board, and/or their authorized representative(s) (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required under law, to:
1. Enter upon the Project or Compensatory Mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this Certification;
 2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Certification;

3. Inspect, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Certification; and
 4. Sample or monitor, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring Certification compliance, or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act or Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location.
- I. **Enforcement Notification.** In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under State law. For purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Certification.
- J. **Certification Actions.** This Certification may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause including but not limited to the following:
1. Violation of any term or condition of this Certification;
 2. Monitoring results indicate that continued Project activities could violate water quality objectives or impair the beneficial uses of Cañada Gobernadora Creek or its tributaries;
 3. Obtaining this Certification by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts;
 4. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge; and
 5. Incorporation of any new or revised water quality standards and implementation plans adopted or approved pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act or section 303 of the Clean Water Act.
- The filing of a request by the Applicant for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any Certification condition.
- K. **Duty to Provide Information.** The Applicant shall furnish to the San Diego Water Board, within a reasonable time, any information which the San Diego Water Board may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Certification or to determine compliance with this Certification.
- L. **Property Rights.** This Certification does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

beneficial uses of waters of the United States and/or State. Discharges related to the application of aquatic pesticides within waters of the United States must be done in compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order No. 2004-0009-DWQ, the *Statewide General National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit for the Discharge of Aquatic Weed Control in Waters of the United States*, and any subsequent reissuance as applicable.

- N. **Limits of Disturbance.** The Applicant shall clearly define the limits of Project disturbance to waters of the United States and/or State using highly visible markers such as flag markers, construction fencing, or silt barriers prior to commencement of Project construction activities within those areas.
- O. **On-site Qualified Biologist.** The Applicant shall designate an on-site qualified biologist to monitor Project construction activities within or adjacent to waters of the United States and/or State to ensure compliance with the Certification requirements. The biologist shall be given the authority to stop all work on-site if a violation of this Certification occurs or has the potential to occur. Records and field notes of the biologist's activities shall be kept on-site and made available for review upon request by the San Diego Water Board.
- P. **Beneficial Use Protection.** The Applicant must take all necessary measures to protect the beneficial uses of waters of Cañada Gobernadora Creek or its tributaries. This Certification requires compliance with all applicable requirements of the Basin Plan. If at any time, an unauthorized discharge to surface waters (including rivers or streams) occurs or monitoring indicates that the Project is violating, or threatens to violate, water quality objectives, the associated Project activities shall cease immediately and the San Diego Water Board shall be notified in accordance with Notification Requirement VII.A of this Certification. Associated Project activities may not resume without approval from the San Diego Water Board.
- Q. **Groundwater Dewatering.** If groundwater dewatering is required for the Project, the Applicant shall enroll in and comply with the requirements of San Diego Water Board Order No. R9-2015-0013 NPDES No. CAG919003, *General Waste Discharge Requirements For Groundwater Extraction Discharges to Surface Waters within the San Diego Region* or its successor permit.

IV. POST-CONSTRUCTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- A. **Post-Construction Discharges.** The Applicant shall not allow post-construction discharges from the Project site to cause or contribute to on-site or off-site erosion or damage to properties or stream habitats.

V. PROJECT IMPACTS AND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION

- A. **Project Impact Avoidance and Minimization.** The Project must avoid and minimize adverse impacts to waters of the United States and/or State to the maximum extent practicable.

B. Project Impacts and Compensatory Mitigation. Unavoidable Project impacts to Cañada Gobernadora Creek and its tributaries within the San Juan Watershed must not exceed the type and magnitude of impacts described in the table below. At a minimum, compensatory mitigation required to offset unavoidable temporary and permanent Project impacts to waters of the United States and/or State must be achieved as described in the table below:

	Impacts (acres)	Impacts (linear ft.)	Mitigation for Impacts (acres)	Mitigation Ratio (area mitigated :area impacted)	Mitigation for Impacts (linear ft.)	Mitigation Ratio (linear feet mitigated :linear feet impacted)
Permanent Impacts						
Riparian Zone	0.002	19	0.27 Establishment ¹	135:1	NA ²	NA
Temporary Impacts³						
Riparian	0.004	29	NA	NA	NA	NA

1. 0.27-acre of wetland establishment at the Gobernadora Ecological Restoration Area 2(GERA 2).
2. Compensatory mitigation is being provided in a contiguous area at the GERA 2 therefore; compensatory mitigation for linear feet is not being calculated.
3. All areas of temporary impacts must be restored to pre-project contours and re-vegetated with native species.

C. Temporary Project Impact Areas. The Applicant must restore all areas of temporary impacts and all other areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge or a threatened discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States and/or State. Restoration must include grading of disturbed areas to pre-project contours and re-vegetation with native species. The Applicant must implement all necessary BMPs to control erosion and runoff from areas associated with the Project.

VI. MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Representative Monitoring.** Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring under this Certification shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- B. Monitoring Reports.** Monitoring results shall be reported to the San Diego Water Board at the intervals specified in section VI of this Certification.
- C. Monitoring and Reporting Revisions.** The San Diego Water Board may make revisions to the monitoring program at any time during the term of this Certification and may reduce or increase the number of parameters to be monitored, locations monitored, the frequency of monitoring, or the number and size of samples collected.

D. Records of Monitoring Information. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
5. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
6. The results of such analyses.

E. Hybrid Wetland Functional Assessment. Hybrid Wetland Functional Assessment (HWFA) (July 2006) prepared by Glenn Lukos Associates, Inc., monitoring must be performed to assess the current and potential ecological conditions (ecological integrity) of the impact site. These conditions reflect the overall level of ecological function of an aquatic resource. Prior to initiating Project construction, the Applicant shall develop a monitoring plan to implement Hybrid Wetland Functional Assessment (HWFA) monitoring. HWFA monitoring must be conducted at the impact site prior to the start of Project construction authorized under this Certification. The HWFA monitoring results shall be submitted with the Annual Project Progress Report. An evaluation, interpretation, and tabulation of all HWFA assessment data shall be submitted with the Final Project Completion Report. The functional assessments shall be conducted using the same methodology as in the Draft Hybrid Wetland Functional Assessment.

F. Discharge Commencement Notification. The Applicant must notify the San Diego Water Board in writing **at least 5 days prior to** the start of Project construction.

G. Geographic Information System Data. The Applicant must submit Geographic Information System (GIS) shape files of the Project impact sites within 30 days of the start of project construction and GIS shape files of the Project mitigation sites within 30 days of mitigation installation. All impact and mitigation site shape files must be polygons. Two GPS readings (points) must be taken on each line of the polygon and the polygon must have a minimum of 10 points. GIS metadata must also be submitted.

H. Annual Project Progress Reports. The Applicant must submit annual Project progress reports describing status of BMP implementation and compliance with all requirements of this Certification to the San Diego Water Board prior to **March 1** of each year following the issuance of this Certification, until the Project has reached completion. Annual Project Progress Reports must be submitted even if Project construction has not begun. The monitoring period for each Annual Project Progress Report shall be January 1st through December 31st of each year. Annual Project Progress Reports must include, at a minimum, the following:

1. **Project Status and Compliance Reporting.** The Annual Project Progress Report must include the following Project status and compliance information:

- a. The names, qualifications, and affiliations of the persons contributing to the report;
 - b. The status, progress, and anticipated schedule for completion of Project construction activities including the installation and operational status of best management practices project features for erosion and storm water quality treatment;
 - c. A description of Project construction delays encountered or anticipated that may affect the schedule for construction completion; and
 - d. A description of each incident of noncompliance during the annual monitoring period and its cause, the period of the noncompliance including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
- I. **Final Project Completion Report.** The Applicant must submit a Final Project Completion Report to the San Diego Water Board **within 30 days of completion of the Project.** The final report must include the following information:
1. Date of construction initiation;
 2. Date of construction completion;
 3. BMP installation and operational status for the Project;
 4. As-built drawings of the Project, no bigger than 11”X17”;
 5. Photo documentation of implemented post-construction BMPs and all areas of permanent and temporary impacts, prior to and after project construction. Photo documentation must be conducted in accordance with guidelines posted at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/401_certification/docs/StreamPhotoDocSOP.pdf. In addition, photo documentation must include Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates for each of the photo points referenced; and
 6. An evaluation, interpretation, and tabulation of all HWFA assessment data collected throughout the term of Project construction in accordance with section VI.E of this Certification.
- J. **Reporting Authority.** The submittal of information required under this Certification, or in response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Certification, is required pursuant to Water Code section 13267 and 13383. Civil liability may be administratively imposed by the San Diego Water Board for failure to submit information pursuant to Water Code sections 13268 or 13385.

- K. Electronic Document Submittal.** The Applicant must submit all reports and information required under this Certification in electronic format via e-mail to SanDiego@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents over 50 megabytes will not be accepted via e-mail and must be placed on a disc and delivered to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
Attn: 401 Certification No. R9-2019-0128:856321:dbradford
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92108

Each electronic document must be submitted as a single file, in Portable Document Format (PDF), converted to text searchable format using Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and not be password protected. All electronic documents must include scanned copies of all signature pages; electronic signatures will not be accepted. Electronic documents submitted to the San Diego Water Board must include the following identification numbers in the header or subject line: Certification No. R9-2019-0128:856321:dbradford.

- L. Document Signatory Requirements.** All applications, reports, or information submitted to the San Diego Water Board must be signed as follows:

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.
4. A duly authorized representative may sign applications, reports, or information if:
 - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described above.
 - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated activity.
 - c. The written authorization is submitted to the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.

If such authorization is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the Project, a new authorization satisfying the above requirements must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications, to be signed by an authorized representative.

- M. Document Certification Requirements.** All applications, reports, or information submitted to the San Diego Water Board must be certified as follows:

"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."

VII. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Twenty Four Hour Non-Compliance Reporting.** The Applicant shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any such information shall be provided orally to the San Diego Water Board within **24 hours** from the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The San Diego Water Board, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
- B. Hazardous Substance Discharge.** Except as provided in Water Code section 13271(b), any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits any hazardous substance or sewage to be discharged in or on any waters of the State, shall as soon as (a) that person has knowledge of the discharge, (b) notification is possible, and (c) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures, immediately notify the County of Orange, in accordance with California Health and Safety Code section 5411.5 and the California Office of Emergency Services of the discharge in accordance with the spill reporting provision of the State toxic disaster contingency plan adopted pursuant to Government Code Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7, Article 3.7 (commencing with section 8574.17), and immediately notify the State Water Board or the San Diego Water Board of the discharge. This provision does not require reporting of any discharge of less than a reportable quantity as provided for under subdivisions (f) and (g) of section 13271 of the Water Code unless the Applicant is in violation of a Basin Plan prohibition.
- C. Oil or Petroleum Product Discharge.** Except as provided in Water Code section 13272(b), any person who without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits any oil or petroleum product to be discharged in or on any waters of the State, or discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged in or on any waters of the State, shall, as soon as (a) such person has knowledge of the discharge, (b) notification is possible, and (c) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures, immediately notify the California Office of Emergency Services of the discharge in accordance with the spill reporting provision of the State oil spill contingency plan adopted pursuant to Government Code Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7, Article 3.7 (commencing with section 8574.1). This requirement does not

require reporting of any discharge of less than 42 gallons unless the discharge is also required to be reported pursuant to Clean Water Act section 311, or the discharge is in violation of a Basin Plan prohibition.

- D. **Anticipated Noncompliance.** The Applicant shall give advance notice to the San Diego Water Board of any planned changes in the Project or the Compensatory Mitigation project which may result in noncompliance with Certification conditions or requirements.
- E. **Transfers.** This Certification is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the San Diego Water Board in accordance with the following terms:
1. **Transfer of Property Ownership:** The Applicant must notify the San Diego Water Board of any change in ownership of the Project area. Notification of change in ownership must include, but not be limited to, a statement that the Applicant has provided the purchaser with a copy of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification and that the purchaser understands and accepts the certification requirements and the obligation to implement them or be subject to liability for failure to do so; the seller and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the San Diego Water Board **within 10 days of the transfer of ownership.**
 2. **Transfer of Mitigation Responsibility:** Any notification of transfer of responsibilities to satisfy the mitigation requirements set forth in this Certification must include a signed statement from an authorized representative of the new party (transferee) demonstrating acceptance and understanding of the responsibility to comply with and fully satisfy the mitigation conditions and agreement that failure to comply with the mitigation conditions and associated requirements may subject the transferee to enforcement by the San Diego Water Board under Water Code section 13385, subdivision (a). Notification of transfer of responsibilities meeting the above conditions must be provided to the San Diego Water Board **within 10 days of the transfer date.**
 3. **Transfer of Post-Construction BMP Maintenance Responsibility:** The Applicant assumes responsibility for the inspection and maintenance of all post-construction structural BMPs until such responsibility is legally transferred to another entity. At the time maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred the Applicant must submit to the San Diego 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 specifications. The Applicant must provide such notification to the San Diego Water Board **within 10 days** of the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

Upon properly noticed transfers of responsibility, the transferee assumes responsibility for compliance with this Certification and references in this Certification to the Applicant will be interpreted to refer to the transferee as appropriate. Transfer of responsibility does not necessarily relieve the Applicant of responsibility for compliance with this Certification in the event that a transferee fails to comply.

VIII. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT COMPLIANCE

- A. The County of Orange is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq.) section 21067, and CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15000 et seq.) section 15367, and has filed a Notice of Determinations for the Ranch Plan Final Environmental Impact Reports (FEIR) 584, certified October 24, 2006 (State Clearing House Number 2003021141), and FEIR 589, certified on November 8, 2004 (State Clearing House Number 2006061140). The Lead Agency has determined the Project will have a significant effect on the environment and mitigation measures were made a condition of the Project.
- B. The San Diego Water Board is a Responsible Agency under CEQA (Public Resources Code section 21069; CEQA Guidelines section 15381). The San Diego Water Board has considered the Lead Agency's FEIRs and finds that the Project as proposed will have a significant effect on resources within the San Diego Water Board's purview.
- C. The San Diego Water Board has required mitigation measures as a condition of this Certification to avoid or reduce the environmental effects of the Project to resources within the Board's purview to a less than significant level.
- D. The Lead Agency has adopted a mitigation monitoring and reporting program pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21081.6 and CEQA Guidelines section 15097 to ensure that mitigation measures and revisions to the Project identified in the FEIRs are implemented. The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is included and incorporated by reference in Attachment 5 to this Certification. The Applicant shall implement the Lead Agency's MMRP described in the FEIRs, as it pertains to resources within the San Diego Water Board's purview. The San Diego Water Board has imposed additional MMRP requirements as specified in sections V and VI of this Certification.
- E. As a Responsible Agency under CEQA, the San Diego Water Board will file a Notice of Determination in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15096 subdivision (i).

IX. SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD CONTACT PERSON

Darren Bradford, Environmental Scientist
Telephone: (619) 521-3356
Email: darren.bradford@waterboards.ca.gov

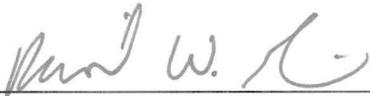
X. WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the proposed discharge from the **Gobernadora Scour Protection and Habitat Restoration** (Certification No. R9-2019-0128) will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 ("Effluent Limitations"), 302 ("Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations"), 303 ("Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans"), 306 ("National Standards of Performance"), and 307 ("Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards") of the Clean Water Act. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Board Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ, "*Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredged or Fill Discharges that have Received State Water Quality Certification (General WDRs)*," which

requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Certification. Please note that enrollment under Order No. 2003-017-DWQ is conditional and, should new information come to our attention that indicates a water quality problem, the San Diego Water Board may issue individual waste discharge requirements at that time.

Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all Certification actions are contingent on (a) the discharge being limited to, and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with, the applicants' Project description and/or the description in this Certification, and (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of the Basin Plan.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the forgoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Certification No. R9-2019-0128 issued on June 14, 2019.



DAVID W. GIBSON
Executive Officer
San Diego Water Board

14 June 2019

Date

ATTACHMENT 1

DEFINITIONS

Activity - when used in reference to a permit means any action, undertaking, or project including, but not limited to, construction, operation, maintenance, repair, modification, and restoration which may result in any discharge to waters of the state.

Buffer - means an upland, wetland, and/or riparian area that protects and/or enhances aquatic resource functions associated with wetlands, rivers, streams, lakes, marine, and estuarine systems from disturbances associated with adjacent land uses.

Hybrid Wetland Functional Assessment (HWFA) - is a conditional assessment method intended to characterize and evaluate the functions of ephemeral drainages. Specifically, this assessment method provides for a rapid, scientifically defensible and repeatable assessment methodology to monitor status and trends in the conditions of aquatic resources. Various metrics were evaluated to determine riparian functions. The metrics evaluated describe three categories of function based on the United States Army Corps of Engineers Hydrogeomorphic Approach (HGM): hydrologic functions, physical process functions (e.g., biogeochemical functions), and biological functions related to habitat. In addition, functions from the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) and Landscape Level Functional Assessment (LLFA) were incorporated.

Compensatory Mitigation Project - means compensatory mitigation implemented by the Applicant as a requirement of this Certification (i.e., applicant -responsible mitigation), or by a mitigation bank or an in-lieu fee program.

Discharge of dredged material – means any addition of dredged material into, including redeposit of dredged material other than incidental fallback within, the waters of the United States and/or State.

Discharge of fill material – means the addition of fill material into waters of the United States and/or State.

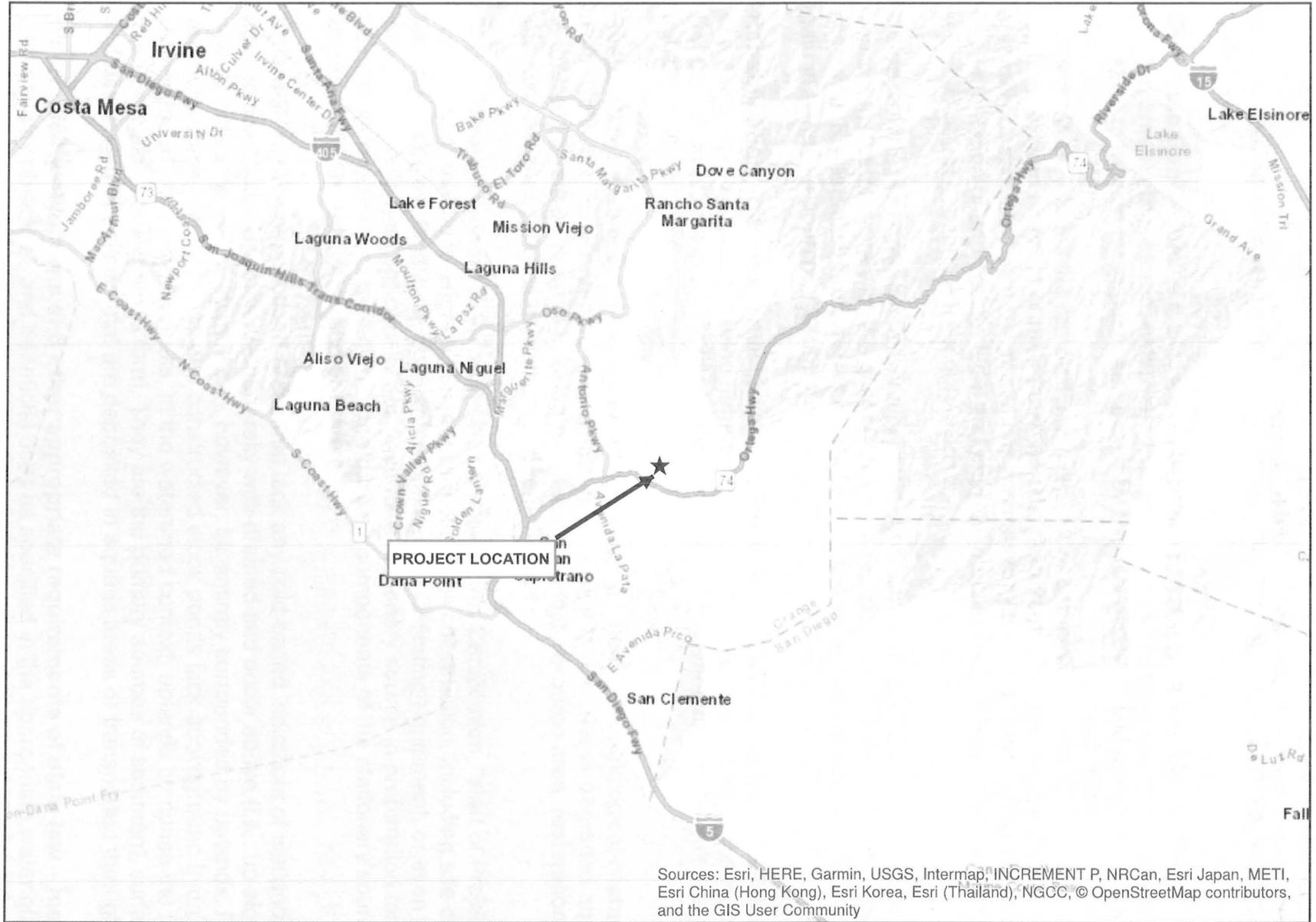
Dredged material – means material that is excavated or dredged from waters of the United States and/or State.

Ecological Success Performance Standards – means observable or measurable physical (including hydrological), chemical, and/or biological attributes that are used to determine if a compensatory mitigation project meets its objectives.

Enhancement – means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of an aquatic resource to improve a specific aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement results in the gain of selected aquatic resource function(s), but may also lead to a decline in other aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

Establishment – means the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop an aquatic resource that did not previously exist. Creation results in a gain in aquatic resource area.

Source: ESRI World Street Map



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

RANCHO MISSION VIEJO SCOUR PROTECTION LIMITS

Regional Map

GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

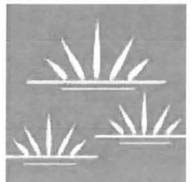
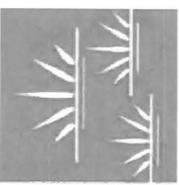


Exhibit 1



GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Exhibit 2

**RANCHO MISSION VIEJO
SCOUR PROTECTION LIMITS**

Vicinity Map

Adapted from USGS Canada Gobernadora, CA quadrangle



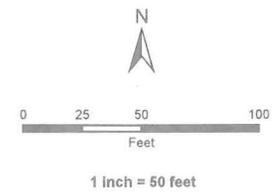
Rancho Mission Viejo
Gobernadora Scour Protection and Habitat Restoration Project
Certification No. R9-2019-0128

**ATTACHMENT 3
PROJECT SITE PLANS**

Exhibit 3 – Jurisdictional Delineation/Impact Map
Sheet SD1 – Scour Protection Permanent Impact Exhibit
Gobernadora Pipeline Protection Berm Detail



-  Previously Permitted Impact Area
-  Berm
-  Concrete
-  Enviroflex
-  Gabions
-  Grading
-  Riprap
-  Corps Jurisdiction
-  CDFW Jurisdiction
-  Existing 12 inch PVC Pipe
-  Photo Location



RANCHO MISSION VIEJO
SCOUR PROTECTION LIMITS
 Jurisdictional Delineation/Impact Map

GLENN LUKOS ASSOCIATES

Exhibit 3

