

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

In the Matter of Water Quality Certification for

**PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY'S
FRENCH MEADOWS BOAT RAMP EXTENSION PROJECT**

Source: French Meadows Reservoir

County: Placer

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
FOR FEDERAL PERMIT OR LICENSE**

Table of Contents

1.0	Project Description.....	1
2.0	Water Rights	2
3.0	Regulatory Authority	2
3.1	Water Quality Certification and Related Authorities	2
3.2	Water Quality Control Plans and Related Authorities	4
3.3	Antidegradation Policy	5
3.4	Construction General Permit	6
3.5	State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Water of the State	6
3.6	Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listing	7
4.0	California Environmental Quality Act	7
5.0	Rationale for Water Quality Certification Conditions	7
5.1	Rationale for Condition 1: Project Activities.....	10
5.2	Rationale for Condition 2: Biological Resources, Aquatic Habitat, and Wetland Protections	10
5.3	Rationale for Condition 3: Erosion and Sediment Control	11
5.4	Rationale for Condition 4: Hazardous Materials Management	11
5.5	Rationale for Condition 5: Reporting	12
5.6	Rationale for Conditions 6 through 26	12
6.0	Conclusion	15
7.0	Water Quality Certification Conditions	16
	CONDITION 1: Project Activities	16
	CONDITION 2: Biological Resources, Aquatic Habitat, and Wetland Protections.....	16
	CONDITION 3: Erosion and Sediment Control.....	18
	CONDITION 4: Hazardous Materials Management	20
	CONDITION 5: Reporting	23
	CONDITIONS 6 – 25.....	24
8.0	References	29
	ATTACHMENT A: PROJECT OVERVIEW MAPS	1

Table of Tables

Table A. Summary of PCWA's Project-related Water Rights3

Table of Figures

Figure 1. Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project Location2

Figure 2. French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project Area and Waters of the
United States Impacts3

Abbreviations

<i>Antidegradation Policy</i>	<i>Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California</i>
<i>APM</i>	<i>Avoidance and Protection Measure</i>
<i>BMP</i>	<i>best management practice</i>
<i>boat ramp</i>	<i>French Meadows Boat Ramp</i>
<i>CDFW</i>	<i>California Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>
<i>Central Valley Basin Plan</i>	<i>Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin</i>
<i>Central Valley Regional Water Board</i>	<i>Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board</i>
<i>CEQA</i>	<i>California Environmental Quality Act</i>
<i>certification</i>	<i>water quality certification</i>
<i>cfs</i>	<i>cubic feet per second</i>
<i>Construction General Permit</i>	<i>National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities</i>
<i>Deputy Director</i>	<i>Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights</i>
<i>Dredge or Fill Procedures</i>	<i>State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State</i>
<i>EIS</i>	<i>Environmental Impact Statement</i>
<i>ESA</i>	<i>Endangered Species Act</i>
<i>Executive Officer</i>	<i>Executive Officer of Central Valley Regional Water Board</i>
<i>FERC</i>	<i>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</i>
<i>Forest Service</i>	<i>United States Forest Service</i>
<i>Hydroelectric Project</i>	<i>Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project</i>
<i>LAA</i>	<i>Lake Alteration Agreement</i>
<i>NOD</i>	<i>Notice of Determination</i>
<i>NPDES</i>	<i>National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System</i>
<i>PCWA</i>	<i>Placer County Water Agency</i>
<i>Permittee</i>	<i>Placer County Water Agency</i>
<i>Project</i>	<i>French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project</i>
<i>Regional Water Boards</i>	<i>Regional Water Quality Control Boards</i>
<i>State Water Board</i>	<i>State Water Resources Control Board</i>
<i>USACE</i>	<i>United States Army Corps of Engineers</i>
<i>USEPA</i>	<i>United States Environmental Protection Agency</i>
<i>Water Boards</i>	<i>State Water Board and Regional Water Boards, collectively</i>
<i>WSE</i>	<i>water surface elevation</i>

1.0 Project Description

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA or Permittee) owns and operates the French Meadows Boat Ramp as part of its Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project (Hydroelectric Project; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2079)¹. The French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project (Project) is required by the Hydroelectric Project's FERC license. (FERC 2020.) The Project would extend the French Meadows Boat Ramp (boat ramp) so that it is functional at lower water surface elevations (WSEs).

French Meadows Reservoir is located approximately 20 miles northeast of Foresthill, California, in Placer County. (See Figure 1.) French Meadows Reservoir is formed by the impoundment of the Middle Fork American River by the Hydroelectric Project's French Meadows Dam. Public access to French Meadows Reservoir is provided at the boat ramp, which is located on the south side of the reservoir. The existing boat ramp is approximately 20 feet wide and 600 feet long, as measured from the maximum normal operating WSE of 5,262 feet to the end of the boat ramp. The existing boat ramp is constructed of concrete and includes three turnaround areas that may be used as water levels recede. The lower end of the existing concrete boat ramp terminates at a WSE of 5,200 feet.

The Project consists of extending the existing boat ramp by approximately 365 linear feet to a WSE of approximately 5,177 feet (23 vertical feet lower than the bottom of the existing boat ramp). Project construction would be initiated in October of the first year in which French Meadows Reservoir WSE can reliably be held at or below 5,174 feet (approximately 50 horizontal feet from the end of the construction footprint) to allow for Project activities to occur in a dry work area. (See Figure 2.) Generally, Project work includes:

- Cutting and removing a 12-inch-long by 12-inch-deep slab of concrete from the toe of the existing boat ramp.
- Constructing a new 365-foot-long by 20-foot-wide concrete boat ramp extension within French Meadows lakebed, which connects to the existing ramp at a WSE 5,200 feet and extend into French Meadows Reservoir to a WSE of 5,177 feet.
- Constructing a joint between the existing boat ramp concrete and newly poured concrete boat ramp extension by drilling 19, 12-inch-deep holes into each concrete ramp and inserting 0.75-inch-long epoxy dowels that will be appropriately filled.
- Constructing a new 70-foot-by-60-foot boat ramp turnaround on the boat ramp extension just below the existing boat ramp (see Figure 2) using native soils, gravel, and concrete.
- Installing rip-rap armoring at the end of the new boat ramp extension.

The Project will use the existing boat ramp parking area as a staging area. The staging area will include materials stockpiling, heavy equipment storage and refueling, and a 14.75-foot-by-10-foot temporary concrete washout area with a plastic liner. A temporary

¹ FERC issued the new license for the Hydroelectric Project on June 8, 2020.

gravel bag check dam will be installed on the north side of the access road to prevent any construction-related stormwater runoff from the road or staging area from reaching impacting waterbodies and aquatic habitat.

Project implementation requires coverage under the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regional General Permit 2 (Reservoir Maintenance Activities), pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Pursuant to section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a USACE permit requires PCWA to obtain a water quality certification (certification) from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board).

On April 8, 2026, PCWA was issued a Lake Alteration Agreement (LAA) for the Project from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (PLA-62967-R2). It is State Water Board staff's understanding that PCWA will also obtain a United States Forest Service (Forest Service) Road Use Permit for the Project.

2.0 Water Rights

Table A lists Project-related water rights maintained by PCWA.

3.0 Regulatory Authority

3.1 Water Quality Certification and Related Authorities

The federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1388) was enacted “to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.” (33 U.S.C. § 1251(a).) The Clean Water Act recognizes, preserves, and protects “the primary responsibilities and rights of States to prevent, reduce, and eliminate pollution [and] to plan the development and use (including restoration, preservation, and enhancement) of land and water resources. . . .” (33 U.S.C. § 1251(b).) In addition, section 101 of the Clean Water Act requires federal agencies to “co-operate with State and local agencies to develop comprehensive solutions to prevent, reduce and eliminate pollution in concert with programs for managing water resources.” (33 U.S.C. § 1251(g).)

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity which may result in a discharge into waters of the United States to provide the licensing or permitting federal agency with certification that the project will comply with specified provisions of the Clean Water Act, including water quality standards and implementation plans promulgated pursuant to section 303 of the Clean Water Act. (33 U.S.C. § 1313.) Clean Water Act section 401 directs the agency responsible for certification to prescribe effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions necessary to ensure the project will comply with the Clean Water Act and with “any other appropriate requirement of State law.” (33 U.S.C. § 1341(d).) These certification conditions shall become conditions of any federal license or permit for the project. (*Ibid.*)

Table A. Summary of PCWA's Project-related Water Rights²

Permit No. (Priority Date)	Sources	Purposes of Use	Diversion and Storage Details	Places of Use (Powerhouses)
013855 (4/7/1958)	• Duncan Creek • Middle Fork American River	• Power • Recreation	• Point of re-diversion at French Meadows Reservoir • Duncan Creek source: 150 cubic feet per second (cfs) direct diversion* and 25,000 acre-feet storage** at 400 cfs diversion rate to French Meadows Reservoir • Middle Fork American River source: 290 cfs direct diversion* and 95,000 acre-feet storage** at French Meadows Reservoir	• French Meadows
013856 (4/7/1958)	• Duncan Creek • Middle Fork American River	• Irrigation and Domestic • Recreation • Municipal and Industrial	• Point of re-diversion at French Meadows Reservoir • Duncan Creek source: 25,000 acre-feet storage at maximum 400 cfs diversion rate** to French Meadows Reservoir • Middle Fork American River source: 95,000 acre-feet storage** at French Meadows Reservoir	Power not an authorized use of permit
013857 (4/8/1958)	• Duncan Creek • Middle Fork American River	• Power • Recreation	• Point of re-diversion at French Meadows Reservoir • Duncan Creek source: 50 cfs direct diversion¹ • Middle Fork American River source: 110 cfs direct diversion* and 10,000 acre-feet storage** at French Meadows Reservoir	• French Meadows
013858 (4/8/1958)	• Middle Fork American River	• Irrigation and Domestic • Recreation • Municipal and Industrial	• Point of re-diversion at French Meadows Reservoir • Middle Fork American River source: 10,000 acre-feet storage** at French Meadows Reservoir	Power not an authorized use of permit

* Diversion permitted year-round. ** Diversion for off-stream storage permitted from about November 1 through July 1.

² Information is from the State Water Board's California Water Accounting, Tracking, and Reporting System. The table shows water right details that pertain to French Meadows Reservoir.

The State Water Board is the state agency responsible for Clean Water Act section 401 certification in California. (Wat. Code, § 13160.) The State Water Board has delegated authority to act on applications for certification to the Executive Director of the State Water Board. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 3838, subd. (a).)

Water Code section 13383 provides that the State Water Board may “establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements” and obtain “other information as may be reasonably required” for activities subject to certification under section 401 of the Clean Water Act. For activities that involve the diversion of water for beneficial use, the State Water Board delegated this authority to the Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights (Deputy Director), as provided for in State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0029. (State Water Board 2012.) In the *Redelegation of Authorities* memorandum issued by the Deputy Director on April 20, 2023, this authority is redelegated to the Assistant Deputy Directors of the Division of Water Rights. (State Water Board 2023a.)

3.1.1 Procedure, Application, and Noticing

On September 30, 2025, PCWA filed a certification application with the State Water Board under section 401 of the Clean Water Act. (PCWA 2025.) On October 29, 2025, State Water Board staff provided public notice of the application, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858, by posting information describing the Project on the State Water Board's website. No comments were received in response to this notice.

On August 6, 2026, State Water Board staff forwarded the certification application to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Regional Water Board). (See Cal. Code Regs., tit 23, § 3855, subd. (b)(2)(B).) No comments were received.

3.2 Water Quality Control Plans and Related Authorities

The State Water Board's certification for the Project must ensure compliance with applicable water quality standards in the Central Valley Regional Water Board's *Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin* (Central Valley Basin Plan) (Central Valley Regional Water Board 2019) and the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary*³ (State Water Board 2018, 2023b, and 2026) and any amendments thereto.

Water quality control plans designate the beneficial uses of water to be protected (such as municipal and domestic supply, industry, agriculture, and fish and wildlife habitat),

³ Based on the Project's limited scope, duration, and distance from the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary, impacts to water quality objectives listed for waterbodies in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary* are not anticipated to occur from Project activities.

water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of the beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance, and a program of implementation to achieve the water quality objectives. (Wat. Code, §§ 13241, 13050, subds. (h), (j).) The beneficial uses, together with the water quality objectives contained in the water quality control plans and applicable state and federal antidegradation requirements, constitute California's water quality standards for purposes of the Clean Water Act. In issuing certification for a project, the State Water Board must ensure consistency with the designated beneficial uses of waters affected by the project, the water quality objectives developed to protect those uses, and anti-degradation requirements. (*PUD No. 1 of Jefferson County v. Washington Dept. of Ecology* (1994) 511 U.S. 700, 714-719.)

The nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) have primary responsibility for the formulation and adoption of water quality control plans for their respective regions, subject to State Water Board and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) approval, as appropriate. (Wat. Code, § 13240 et seq.) As noted above, the State Water Board may also adopt water quality control plans, which will supersede regional water quality control plans for the same waters to the extent of any conflict. (Wat. Code, § 13170.) The State Water Board and Regional Water Boards (collectively Water Boards) adopt these plans pursuant to their authorities under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq.) and the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1313).

3.2.1 Central Valley Basin Plan

The Central Valley Regional Water Board adopted, and the State Water Board and USEPA approved, the Central Valley Basin Plan. The Central Valley Basin Plan designates beneficial uses of water to be protected along with the water quality objectives necessary to protect those uses. The Central Valley Basin Plan specifies that the beneficial uses of any specifically identified waterbody generally apply to its tributary streams. The Central Valley Basin Plan identifies existing beneficial uses for the Middle Fork American River, source to Folsom Lake (including French Meadows Reservoir and its unnamed intermittent and ephemeral tributaries) as municipal and domestic supply, irrigation, stock watering, power, contact recreation, canoeing and rafting, other non-contact recreation, cold freshwater habitat, cold freshwater spawning, and wildlife habitat. Warm freshwater habitat is identified as a potential beneficial use.

3.3 Antidegradation Policy

The State Water Board's *Statement of Policy* with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California ([Antidegradation Policy](#))⁴ (State Water Board 1968) requires that the quality of existing high-quality water be maintained unless any change will be consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state, will not unreasonably impact present or anticipated future beneficial uses of such water, and will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in water quality control plans or policies. The Antidegradation Policy further requires best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that pollution or nuisance will not occur and the highest

⁴ State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and any amendments thereto.

water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state will be maintained. The state Antidegradation Policy incorporates the federal Antidegradation Policy, which requires "[e]xisting instream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect the existing uses shall be maintained and protected." (40 C.F.R. § 131.12(a)(1).)

3.4 Construction General Permit

Coverage under the State Water Board's *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities* ([Construction General Permit](#))⁵ (State Water Board 2022) is required for activities that disturb one or more acres of soil, or that disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres. Construction activities subject to the Construction General Permit include clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling or excavation, but do not include regular maintenance activities performed to restore the original line, grade, or capacity of a facility. Coverage is required pursuant to Clean Water Act sections 301 and 402 which prohibit certain discharges of stormwater containing pollutants except in compliance with an NPDES permit. (33 U.S.C. §§ 1311, 1342(p); 40 C.F.R. pts. 122, 123, and 124.) PCWA identified enrollment under the Construction General Permit as part of its Project.

3.5 State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Water of the State

The *State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State* ([Dredge or Fill Procedures](#)) (State Water Board 2019 and 2021⁶) provide California's definition of wetland, wetland delineation procedures, and procedures for submitting applications for activities that could result in discharges of dredged or fill material to waters of the state. The Dredge or Fill Procedures ensure that State Water Board regulatory activities will result in no net loss of wetland quantity, quality, or permanence, consistent with California Water Code, Division 7, Chapter 28, sections 16200-16201. PCWA must comply with the Dredge or Fill Procedures when conducting dredge or fill activities that may impact waters of the state, including wetlands.

⁵ State Water Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ and NPDES No. CAS000002, as amended by Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ, Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ, Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, and any amendments thereto. Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction/general_permit_reissuance.html. Accessed on August 21, 2026.

⁶ Resolution No. 2021-0012. Confirmation That the "State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State" (1) Are in Effect as State Policy for Water Quality Control for All Waters of The State and (2) Shall be Applied via the Inland Surface Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan to only Waters of The United States.

3.6 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listing

The *2024 California Integrated Report (Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List / 305(b) Report)* (2024 Integrated Report) (State Water Board 2024) was partially approved and partially disapproved by USEPA on December 13, 2024. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires total maximum daily loads to be developed for impaired waterbodies. Total maximum daily loads are control programs that define the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive without exceeding water quality standards and establish waste load allocations and load allocations for point and nonpoint sources of pollution, respectively. The 2024 Integrated Report does not identify any impairments for French Meadows Reservoir.

4.0 California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) applies to discretionary projects that may cause a direct or indirect physical change in the environment. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) When proposing to undertake or approve a discretionary project, state agencies must comply with the procedural and substantive requirements of CEQA. For the Project, PCWA is the lead agency for the purpose of compliance with CEQA Guidelines (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.) The State Water Board is a responsible agency for the Project under CEQA.

On July 23, 2012, FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the relicensing of the Hydroelectric Project under the National Environmental Policy Act. FERC's Draft EIS for the Hydroelectric Project included the Project. (FERC 2012.) On December 6, 2012, PCWA released a Draft CEQA Supplement (PCWA 2012.) to FERC's Draft EIS. The Draft CEQA Supplement augmented sections of FERC's Draft EIS that were insufficient to satisfy CEQA.

On February 22, 2013, FERC released the Final EIS for the Hydroelectric Project. (FERC 2013.) On April 26, 2013, PCWA issued its Final CEQA Supplement to the Hydroelectric Project Final EIS. (PCWA 2013.) PCWA approved the Final CEQA Supplement for the Hydroelectric Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) with the State Clearinghouse and the offices of the Placer County Clerk and the El Dorado County Clerk on May 7, 2013. The NOD states that the Hydroelectric Project, including the Project, will not have a significant impact on the environment.

The State Water Board will file an NOD with the State Clearinghouse within five working days of issuing this certification.

5.0 Rationale for Water Quality Certification Conditions

This section of the certification explains that the grant of certification, as conditioned, is warranted and why the conditions in Section 7.0 are necessary to ensure that the Project will comply with water quality requirements. This section also includes, as necessary, citations to federal, state, or tribal laws that authorize the conditions and sets forth citations to applicable regulatory authority. Section 3.0 also sets forth citations to applicable regulatory authority. The explanation and citations should be evaluated in the

context of the certification as a whole, but the certification conditions are set forth only in Section 7.0.

As explained in this section, the conditions in this certification are generally required pursuant to the Central Valley Basin Plan and other applicable plans and policies adopted by the Water Boards, as described in Section 3.0, Regulatory Authority.

The Dredge or Fill Procedures, adopted pursuant to Water Code sections 13140 and 13170, authorize approval of dredge or fill projects subject to satisfaction of specified requirements.

California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3830 et seq., set forth state regulations pertaining to certifications. In particular, section 3856 sets forth information that must be included in certification requests, and section 3860 sets forth standard conditions that shall be included in all certification actions.

As noted in Section 3.1, Clean Water Act section 401(d) authorizes state agencies responsible for certification to require monitoring to ensure the project will comply with the Clean Water Act and with “any other appropriate requirement of State law.” (33 U.S.C. § 1341(d).) Water Code sections 13267 and 13383 authorize the Water Boards to establish monitoring and reporting requirements for persons discharging or proposing to discharge waste to navigable waters. Water Code section 13165 authorizes the State Water Board to require a state or local agency to investigate and report on technical factors involved in water quality control, 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. Water Code section 1051 additionally authorizes the State Water Board to investigate waters diverted for beneficial use. Moreover, this certification ensures continued monitoring, reporting, and assessment of water quality for the Project activities that may impact waters of the state.

Fish and Game Code section 5937 requires any owner⁷ of a dam to allow sufficient water to pass over, around, or through the dam to keep in good condition any fish that may be planted or exist downstream. Section 5937 and requirements to maintain or monitor flow or other water quality characteristics as required to meet section 5937 are appropriate conditions of state law necessary to protect fishery beneficial uses.

The State Water Board has broad authority to prevent waste and unreasonable use pursuant to article X, section 2 of the California Constitution and Water Code sections 100 and 275. In addition, the State Water Board has both the authority and the duty to protect public trust uses whenever feasible under the public trust doctrine. (*National Audubon Society v. Superior Court* (1983) 33 Cal.3d 419, 446.) Under California’s public trust doctrine, public trust uses include, but are not limited to,

⁷ The Fish and Game Code defines “owner” to include “the United States . . . , the State, a person, political subdivision, or district (other than fish and game district) owning, controlling, or operating a dam or pipe.” (Fish & G. Code, § 5900, subd. (c).)

navigation, fishing, recreation, environmental values, and fish and wildlife habitat. (*Id.* at pp. 434-435.)

In general, the code citations, plans, and policies that support issuance of this certification that are described in Section 3.0 are not duplicated in this section. The conditions in this certification were developed to ensure compliance with water quality standards and water quality requirements established under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act, including requirements in applicable water quality control plans, and other appropriate requirements of state law. The conditions in Section 7.0 of this certification are necessary to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state identified in water quality control plans, prevent degradation of water quality, and help ensure compliance with state and federal water quality requirements and other applicable requirements of state law. When preparing the conditions in this certification, State Water Board staff reviewed and considered the following information:

- PCWA's September 30, 2025, Project certification application with avoidance and protection measures listed in Attachment 7, Table 1. (PCWA 2025.)
- Existing and potential beneficial uses, associated water quality objectives, and implementation measures and programs described in the Central Valley Basin Plan. (Central Valley Regional Water Board 2019.)
- FERC's EIS for the Hydroelectric Project. (FERC 2013.)
- PCWA's Final CEQA Supplement to the Final EIS for the Hydroelectric Project. (PCWA 2013.)
- CDFW LAA (PLA-62967-R2). (CDFW 2026.)
- Applicable water quality information, permits, policies, objectives, implementation measures, and programs (e.g., Dredge or Fill Procedures, Construction General Permit, etc.).
- Existing water quality conditions.
- Project-related controllable factors (e.g., timing of construction, monitoring weather forecasts for summer rainfall, ability to delay in-reservoir work until after rainfall).
- Other information in the record.

This certification is issued in conformance with the final Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Improvement Rule (88 Fed.Reg. 66558 (Sept. 27, 2023) [amending 40 C.F.R. parts 121, 122, and 124]) that went into effect on November 27, 2023 (2023 Rule), but as it pertains to documentation of conditions also generally complies with the previous USEPA Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification Rule, 85 Fed.Reg. 42210 (July 13, 2020) (2020 Rule) that was in effect for portions of 2020-2023. Under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, when an activity requiring a federal permit or license "may result in any discharge into the navigable waters," the applicant is required to obtain a certification that states the activity will comply with applicable water quality standards and that also sets forth any "limitations" and "monitoring requirements" necessary to assure that the "applicant" will comply with water quality standards, other provisions of the Clean Water Act, and "with any other appropriate requirement of State law." (33 U.S.C. § 1341(a) & (d).) Certification is

required for such activity as a whole, not merely for its point source discharges to waters of the United States. (*PUD No. 1, supra*, 511 U.S. at pp. 711-712.) As explained in this certification, each certification condition is authorized by applicable state and federal law and is necessary to ensure compliance with such laws. This paragraph is hereby incorporated as part of the explanatory statement for each condition of this certification.

Deputy Director approval of modifications to plans required by certification conditions allows the State Water Board to exercise its authority granted by the Clean Water Act to protect water quality at an appropriate time in the future. Section 401 anticipates that certifications will not only set limits on operations but will also monitor operations on an ongoing basis. (33 U.S.C. § 1341 (d).) Activities not included in the certification application and management plans that have not yet been created or submitted to the State Water Board cannot be specifically conditioned at the time of certification issuance. Ensuring flexibility for adaptive management via delegation of authority to the Deputy Director in these situations is necessary to ensure the Project is operated in a manner that is protective of water quality.

5.1 Rationale for Condition 1: Project Activities

As described in Section 5.0, this certification is granted based on the application and supporting information submitted, in accordance with the State Water Board's regulations and subject to requirements of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Condition 1 requires PCWA to implement the Project as described in its September 30, 2025, certification application as modified by conditions of this certification. Condition 1 will help ensure that the Project is implemented in a manner that protects water quality objectives and avoids unreasonable impacts to beneficial uses. Any changes to the Project description that are inconsistent with the certification application and supplemental information provided to the State Water Board prior to certification issuance could impact the findings, conclusions, and conditions of the certification and may necessitate the filing of a new certification application as well as trigger additional environmental review.

5.2 Rationale for Condition 2: Biological Resources, Aquatic Habitat, and Wetland Protections

Project activities, such as construction that takes place on French Meadows Reservoir lakebed, staging, site access, and concrete demolition/installation associated with the construction of the boat ramp extension have the potential to adversely impact biological resources, aquatic habitat, and wetlands. Potential adverse impacts include loss of natural bed or bank, increase in sediment transport, short-term release of contaminants, change to or loss or decline of natural bed substrate, and degradation of aquatic foraging habitat for birds and other wildlife. Condition 2 requires PCWA implement biological resource, aquatic habitat, and wetland protection measures. Specifically, Condition 2 requires PCWA to implement avoidance and protection measures (APMs) and best management practices (BMPs) as modified by this certification and additional measures to prevent or minimize Project impacts. Condition 2 requires compliance with the Dredge or Fill Procedures, Water Code

sections 16200-16201, and other avoidance and minimization measures to limit or avoid impacts to waters of the state.

Beneficial uses of the Middle Fork American River from sources to Folsom Lake (including French Meadows Reservoir and its unnamed intermittent and ephemeral tributaries) that may be impacted by aquatic habitat disturbance associated with the Project include other non-contact recreation, cold freshwater habitat, warm freshwater habitat, cold spawning habitat, and wildlife habitat.

5.3 Rationale for Condition 3: Erosion and Sediment Control

Erosion and sedimentation can contribute to degradation of waters of the state; therefore, it is necessary to implement actions to eliminate or limit such discharges to protect water quality and associated beneficial uses. Project activities that have the potential to cause erosion and increase turbidity in French Meadows Reservoir include, but are not limited to, use of heavy construction equipment in the staging area, boat ramp extension activities in French Meadows Reservoir, and use of Project access roads. Increases in erosion and sedimentation can cause violations of Central Valley Basin Plan water quality objectives (e.g., turbidity) and adversely impact beneficial uses. Condition 3 requires PCWA to enroll under and comply with the Construction General Permit and implement erosion and sediment control measures to protect water quality and beneficial uses.

Condition 3 also requires PCWA to monitor for and report any discharges that might violate water quality objectives. This is consistent with the Water Boards' authority to investigate waters of the state, including for quality, and to require necessary monitoring and reporting pursuant to Water Code sections 13267 and 13383. Condition 3 is required pursuant to Water Code section 13264, which prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this certification.

Beneficial uses of the Middle Fork American River from sources to Folsom Lake (including French Meadows Reservoir and its unnamed intermittent and ephemeral tributaries) that may be impacted by erosion or sediment discharges associated with the Project include municipal and domestic supply, irrigation, stock watering, contact recreation, canoeing and rafting, other non-contact recreation, cold freshwater habitat, warm freshwater habitat, cold spawning habitat, and wildlife habitat.

5.4 Rationale for Condition 4: Hazardous Materials Management

Construction of the boat ramp extension, which includes removal and pouring of concrete, use of heavy equipment, and a temporary concrete washout area, may adversely impact water quality in French Meadows Reservoir. Hazardous materials management is essential to ensure hazardous materials are properly stored, transported, and managed throughout Project implementation to avoid discharges to surface waters. Condition 4 requires the implementation of hazardous materials management measures to prevent hazardous material spills into waterways. Condition 4 is required pursuant to Water Code section 13264, which prohibits any discharge that is not specifically authorized in this certification.

The Central Valley Basin Plan includes narrative water quality objectives for oil, grease, and other hazardous materials: “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.” (Central Valley Regional Water Board 2019.)

Condition 4 requires the implementation of hazardous materials management measures to prevent hazardous materials spills into waterways, including containment pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 27, section 20320. Secondary containment around hazardous materials storage sites helps ensure that any leaks or spills of hazardous materials do not result in a discharge to waters of the state.

Condition 4(B) details concrete management and monitoring measures. Concrete associated with construction of the boat ramp extension has the potential to encounter rainwater or reservoir water and thereby has the potential to elevate pH and harm aquatic species. Monitoring and reporting requirements in Condition 4 are consistent with the Water Boards’ authority to investigate waters of the state, including for quality, and to require necessary monitoring and reporting pursuant to Water Code sections 1051, 13165, 13267, and 13383.

Beneficial uses of the Middle Fork American River from sources to Folsom Lake (including French Meadows Reservoir and its unnamed intermittent and ephemeral tributaries) that may be impacted by hazardous materials include municipal and domestic supply, irrigation, stock watering, contact recreation, canoeing and rafting, other non-contact recreation, cold freshwater habitat, warm freshwater habitat, cold spawning habitat, and wildlife habitat.

5.5 Rationale for Condition 5: Reporting

Condition 5 requires PCWA to notify the Central Valley Regional Water Board and State Water Board staff prior to implementing Project activities, provide updates during Project implementation, and submit a Completion Report following completion of the Project to document compliance with the certification requirements. Required updates and the Completion Report will inform the Deputy Director of compliance with the conditions of the certification and water quality objectives, and the protection of beneficial uses.

Reporting requirements of Condition 5 are consistent with the Water Boards’ authority to investigate waters of the state, including for quality, and to require necessary monitoring and reporting pursuant to Water Code sections 1051, 13165, 13267, and 13383. The reporting requirements of Condition 5 are necessary to ensure the Project does not impact water quality and associated beneficial uses, and that any impacts that occur are addressed appropriately.

5.6 Rationale for Conditions 6 through 26

This certification imposes additional conditions regarding Project approvals, monitoring, enforcement, and potential future revisions.

Condition 6 is necessary to comply with Water Code section 13167 and Conditions 7 through 10 contain important clarifications concerning the scope and legal effect of this certification, as well as other legal requirements that may apply to the Project.

Monitoring, reporting, and assessment actions, and the information developed through such actions, must be readable, shared, and coordinated with other appropriate entities, and accessible to ensure that an activity complies with water quality requirements. Water Code section 13167 requires the Water Boards to ensure that monitoring data and assessment information are available in a single location and that the information is presented in a manner easily understandable by the public. To fulfill this legislative mandate, Condition 6 requires electronic data submittal in a compatible format with existing system specifications. Compliance with this condition enhances the accessibility of data and transparency of regulatory actions. This allows regulatory agencies and the public to better assess compliance and understand water quality trends or data anomalies by compiling data and making it readily available.

Pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act (ESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.) and federal ESA (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.), Condition 7 of the certification does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a threatened, endangered, or candidate species.

An applicant for certification is required to identify other licenses, permits, and agreements in the application. In the event an applicant for certification needs authorization from the state or federal authorities, California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3856, subdivision (e), requires that the applicant provide copies of “any final and signed federal, state, and local licenses, permits, and agreements (or copies of the draft documents, if not finalized) that will be required for any actions associated with the activity. If no final or draft document is available, a list of all remaining agency regulatory approvals being sought shall be included.”

Water Code section 13160, subdivision (b)(1), allows the State Water Board to issue a certification when there is “reasonable assurance that an activity of any person subject to the jurisdiction of the [State Water Board] will comply with applicable requirements” of state and federal law. To help ensure the integrity of the certification process and its focus on the protection of water quality and compliance with other applicable state requirements, Condition 8 serves to notify applicants that there may be additional applicable federal, state, or local laws or ordinances with which they must comply.

Because agency organization and authorities change over time, Condition 9 provides direction for continuity of oversight in the event an agency’s authority or responsibility is transferred to or subsumed by another agency.

The State Water Board is responsible for the water rights, water quality, and drinking water functions of the California state government. (Wat. Code, § 174.) Certain certifications involve an appropriation of water subject to part 2 of division 2 of the Water Code or the diversion of water for certain beneficial uses. (See, e.g., Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 3855, subd. (b)(1)(A).) Condition 10 explains the State Water Board’s issuance of this certification is not adjudicating or approving the validity of water rights that may

be related to the Project. It also recognizes the State Water Board's authority, independent of its water quality authority, to prevent unauthorized or threatened unauthorized diversions of water. This helps to ensure that an applicant for a federal license or for any activity which may result in a discharge to navigable waters understands that, except as specified in the certification, the certification does not constitute or excuse the applicant from obtaining any other State Water Board approvals required for the activity.

Conditions 11 through 13 are necessary to assume that any Project activities authorized under the certification will comply with water quality requirements. These conditions are included to comply with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3860, which sets forth conditions that must be included in all certifications.

Condition 11 is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all certification actions" pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3860, subdivision (a). This condition places the permittee on notice that the certification action may be modified or revoked following administrative or judicial review. Condition 12 is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions" pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3860, subdivision (b). This condition clarifies the scope of the certification's application and ensures that any applicant for a federal license or permit, which may result in a discharge into navigable waters, is subject to the appropriate State certification. Condition 13 is a standard condition that "shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions" pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3860, subdivision (c). This fee requirement condition is also required pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3833, subdivision (b), which requires payment of fees by project proponents applying for certification. Fees are essential to support the Water Boards certification program, which includes the development of certifications and related inspections to ensure the protection of water quality and beneficial uses that may be impacted by a project.

Conditions 14 through 26 are necessary to ensure that the Project operates to meet water quality standards and other appropriate requirements of state law, or that adjustments are made to ensure continued compliance with water quality standards in light of new information, changes to the Project, or changes to the standards themselves.

This certification requires monitoring, reporting, and analysis as important elements to ensure that Project activities will comply with state and federal water quality requirements and other appropriate requirements of state law.

Conditions 14, 15, and 16 provide for extensions of time to comply with requirements, prevention or remedy of violations, and notification of changed conditions to ensure compliance and prevent violations of water quality standards. In the event of non-compliance, modified conditions may be necessary to return the Project to compliance and prevent violation of water quality standards.

Conditions 17, 18, and 19 require the applicant to comply with the Central Valley Basin Plan, and amendment thereto; and ensures all reasonable measures to protect water quality and beneficial uses, in accordance with plans adopted pursuant to state and federal water laws.

Water Code section 13267 authorizes the State Water Board to require any person or entity who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste to furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports when necessary to investigate the quality of any waters of the state. Condition 20 requires such reports that are necessary to ensure compliance with water quality standards.

Condition 21, related to site access requirements and is authorized pursuant to the Water Boards' authority to investigate the quality of any waters of the state, including specific site access authorized under Water Code sections 13267 and 13383. Site access is needed to ensure compliance with the certification and associated protection of water quality and beneficial uses.

Condition 22 requires site personnel and agencies to be familiar with the content of the certification and availability of the document at the Project's sites. This condition is required to assure that site personnel are familiar with the conditions needed to protect water quality and any authorized discharge will comply with the terms and conditions of this certification, which requires compliance with water quality objectives and protection of beneficial uses adopted or approved under sections 13170 or 13245 of the Water Code, and with other appropriate requirements of state law.

Condition 23 requires that PCWA use analytical methods approved by California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, when available, to ensure that such analyses are done in a consistent manner.

Condition 24 provides that the State Water Board will provide notice and an opportunity to be heard in exercising its authority to add or modify certification conditions.

Condition 25 ensures that PCWA complies with the Dredge or Fill Procedures and the Project's activities result in no net loss of wetland quantity, quality, or permanence, consistent with the Water Code sections 16200-16201.

In the event that any provision of this certification is found invalid, Condition 26 ensures that all other provisions will remain effective and water quality will still be protected. (Wat. Code, § 13160.)

6.0 Conclusion

The State Water Board finds that, with the conditions and limitations imposed by this certification, the Project will be protective of state and federal water quality standards and other appropriate requirements of state law.

7.0 Water Quality Certification Conditions

ACCORDINGLY, BASED ON ITS INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE RECORD, THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD CERTIFIES that implementation of the French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project (Project) by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA or Permittee) will comply with sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, and with applicable provisions of State law, under the following terms and conditions.

CONDITION 1: Project Activities

Unless otherwise changed by conditions of this water quality certification (certification), or approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Deputy Director of the Division of Water Rights (Deputy Director), the Permittee shall implement the Project as described in PCWA's September 30, 2025, certification application with Avoidance and Protection Measures (APMs) and United States Forest Service (Forest Service) best management practices (BMPs) listed in Attachment 7, Table 1, of PCWA's certification application. (PCWA 2025.)

CONDITION 2: Biological Resources, Aquatic Habitat, and Wetland Protections

Unless otherwise approved by the Deputy Director, the Permittee shall implement the aquatic biological resource APMs and BMPs described in Attachment 7 of PCWA's certification application (PCWA 2025) as modified by this condition, and additional measures listed below to ensure protection of water quality and beneficial uses.

2(A) Biological Resources and Aquatic Habitat Protections

- The Permittee shall minimize bank and riparian area excavation during construction and work shall be restricted to previously disturbed/developed areas to the maximum extent possible. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP AqEco-2.)
- Work crews shall be restricted to designated and clearly defined work areas and access routes. Staging of equipment and material sites shall be restricted to designated areas, and at a minimum located 150 feet away from surface waters. (Consistent with California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Lake Alteration Agreement (LAA) Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.20.)
- Vehicle access shall be limited to existing roads and designated crossings to the maximum extent possible.
- Riparian vegetation shall not be removed or destroyed. (Consistent with APM 5 and CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.3.)
- Laydown and staging areas shall be in previously developed or disturbed areas.
- Stockpiles, portable equipment, vehicles, and supplies shall be restricted to the designated construction staging areas and shall be located outside of wetlands, surface waters, and riparian habitat.
- Storage or parking of equipment shall be prohibited within and directly adjacent to waterways and within 150 feet of riparian and wetland habitat. (Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.20.)

- Worker Environmental Training Program: Complementary with APM 34, the Permittee shall retain a qualified biologist⁸ to develop and conduct mandatory worker environmental training about special-status species⁹ and their associated habitat that could be encountered during Project activities. At a minimum, the worker environmental training shall include the following:
 - A review of the state and federal laws pertaining to protection of special-status species.
 - A review of the photographs, presence, applicable life history, and habitat requirements of special-status species, including any threatened or endangered species, that are known to occur or may occur in the Project areas. This review shall include actions and reporting procedures that shall be implemented if special-status species are encountered.
 - A review of APMs and other measures that shall be implemented to minimize the potential for effects to these species and habitats.
 - A review of applicable elements of the Project certification to ensure personnel implement measures to protect water quality and beneficial uses.

The Worker Environmental Training shall be conducted prior to beginning Project activities and shall be provided to any new personnel prior to those personnel conducting on-site work.

- Aquatic Invasive Species: The Permittee shall report any new discovery of aquatic invasive species (e.g., golden mussels) to the Deputy Director. The report shall include:
 - The source of the infestation, if known.
 - Measures the Permittee proposes to implement for Deputy Director review and consideration of approval. Measures need only be provided if the aquatic invasive species presence is caused or exacerbated by the Project.
 - The Permittee shall implement any Deputy Director approved measures. The Deputy Director may require changes as part of any approval. Aquatic invasive species observations and Deputy Director-approved treatment measures shall be recorded, reported to the qualified biologist, and included in the Completion Report (Condition 5).

2(B) Wetland Protections

The Project is anticipated to result in 0.159 acre and approximately 86 cubic yards of temporary impacts and 0.251 acre and approximately 879 cubic yards of permanent impacts within the ordinary high-water mark of French Meadows Reservoir. The Permittee shall notify and receive Deputy Director approval of any increase to the estimated temporary and permanent impacts. Additionally, permanent impacts shall be

⁸ A qualified biologist is a biologist who is knowledgeable of and experienced with special-status species and their habitats that may be in the Project area.

⁹ Special-status species include those protected by the United States or state of California as endangered or threatened, CDFW Species of Special Concern, CDFW Fully Protected species, or Forest Service sensitive species.

compensated for at a minimum of a 1:1 ratio consistent with the *State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State* (Dredge or Fill Procedures) (State Water Board 2019 and 2021), and any amendments thereto, and Water Code sections 16200-16201. The Permittee shall provide the Deputy Director with documentation of compliance with this mitigation provision as part of the Completion Report (Condition 5).

CONDITION 3: Erosion and Sediment Control

Unless otherwise approved by the Deputy Director, the Permittee shall implement the erosion and sediment control APMs and Forest Service BMPs as described in Appendix 7, Table 1, of PCWA's certification application (PCWA 2025) as modified by this condition, and the additional measures listed below. These measures shall be implemented prior to, during, and after any ground-disturbing activities or any other Project activities that could result in erosion or sediment discharges to surface waters.

- Ground disturbance shall not exceed the minimum amount necessary to complete work and shall be confined to previously disturbed or developed areas to the extent feasible.
- The Permittee shall comply with the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities*¹⁰ (Construction General Permit; State Water Board 2022) and any amendments thereto. If there is any conflict between the conditions of this certification and applicable conditions in the Construction General Permit, the more stringent shall apply.
- The Permittee shall conduct work during the dry season. The Permittee shall operate equipment when soil compaction, displacement, erosion, and sediment runoff will be minimal. The Permittee shall avoid equipment operations on unstable, wet, or easily compacted soils and on steep slopes unless operation can be conducted without causing excessive rutting, soil puddling, or runoff of sediments into surface waters. The Permittee shall evaluate site conditions frequently to assess changing conditions and address such conditions as appropriate. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP AqEco-2.)
- The Permittee shall implement suitable drainage measures, including the construction of facilities to control erosion and sedimentation during earthwork. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP AqEco-2.)
- The Permittee shall implement mechanical treatments on the contour of sloping ground to avoid or minimize water concentration and subsequent accelerated erosion. To reduce gully and sheet erosion and associated sedimentation, mechanical equipment shall be restricted to slopes generally less than 35 percent. Within aquatic, riparian, and meadow habitats, mechanical

¹⁰ State Water Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ and NPDES No. CAS000002, as amended by Order No. 2010-0014-DWQ, Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ, Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, and any amendments thereto. Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction/general_permit_reissuance.html. Accessed on August 21, 2026.

treatments shall be minimized on moderate slopes (15-30 percent) and restricted to slopes less than 30 percent. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Veg-2.)

- Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.31, if the National Weather System forecasts a 30 percent or greater chance of a 0.25-inch rain event (24 hours) in the Project area (hereafter “precipitation event”) during Project activities, the following actions shall be taken:
 - Work in and around French Meadows Reservoir using heavy equipment and any other Project work with the potential to result in a discharge shall cease and the site shall be secured.
 - All stockpiles shall be covered and surrounded with appropriate sediment control measures (e.g., berms) to avoid sediment runoff until the precipitation event is over and any flow or potential for flow dissipates.
- Certified weed-free hay, mulch, or straw shall be used for erosion control. (Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.14.2.)
- Certified weed-free fiber rolls shall be installed and maintained throughout the Project on slopes around the staging area (approximately 35 linear feet) to control erosion.
- Following ground disturbing activities, any previously undisturbed areas used for Project activities shall, to the extent possible, be restored to natural conditions including, as appropriate, use of native seeding and/or plantings and sloping, when needed, to prevent future runoff and erosion.
- The Permittee shall conduct visible monitoring for turbidity plumes or other evidence of sedimentation in French Meadows Reservoir throughout Project activities. If visual monitoring determines that Project activities created a turbidity plume or sedimentation, the Permittee shall notify the Deputy Director and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Regional Water Board) Executive Officer (Executive Officer) promptly, and in no case more than 24 hours, following an exceedance. The notice shall include the cause of the exceedance, measures taken to correct the exceedance, and measures the Permittee will implement to prevent future exceedances. Regardless of when such notification occurs, activities associated with the exceedance shall cease immediately upon detection. Work activities may resume after corrective actions have been implemented, as applicable, and the Deputy Director has provided approval to proceed. The Deputy Director may require additional actions to help prevent similar exceedances in the future.
- Fill shall be properly compacted to avoid and/or minimize erosion.
- Following completion of work, all equipment shall be removed from French Meadows Reservoir and the staging area. The Permittee shall conduct a final inspection to ensure that cleanup and stabilization activities are satisfactorily completed. The Permittee shall include in the final inspection findings in the Project Completion Report (Condition 5).
- Stockpiles shall be located outside of wetlands, surface waters, and riparian habitat. Dredged or excavated material shall be stored at least 100 feet from any waters of the state and in a manner that does not result in runoff discharges to surface waters. Stockpiles and dredged materials shall be regularly inspected to ensure no water runoff or sediment discharge to surface waters. If discharge is observed, the Permittee shall immediately implement appropriate BMPs

(including, but not limited to, turbidity curtains, berms, and erosion control measures) to eliminate discharges and notify the Deputy Director within 24 hours of identifying the discharge. The notification shall include: (1) when the discharge was identified; (2) actions implemented by the Permittee to eliminate the discharge; (3) ongoing and any proposed future actions the Permittee will implement to prevent additional discharges. The Deputy Director may require additional information, monitoring, or actions to address ongoing and/or future discharges.

CONDITION 4: Hazardous Materials Management

Unless otherwise approved by the Deputy Director, the Permittee shall implement the hazardous materials APMs and Forest Service BMPs as described in Attachment 7, Table 1, of PCWA's certification application (PCWA 2025) as modified by this condition, and the additional measures listed below. These measures shall be implemented prior to the commencement of, during, and after any Project activity that involves the storage, use, or management of hazardous materials.

4(A) Training

Project-related personnel, including contractors and subcontractors, shall be trained in proper hazardous material management and shall be able to access safety data sheets for all hazardous substances stored or used in the Project area. Additionally, all construction staff shall receive training on the appropriate work practices necessary to comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations, including hazardous materials management.

4(B) Concrete Management

- No water contaminated with concrete shall be allowed to enter waterbodies or aquatic habitat (e.g., wetlands).
- The Permittee shall ensure that Project construction occurs when the water surface elevation of French Meadows Reservoir is at or below 5,174 feet above mean sea level for both the duration of the Project and for a minimum of 15 days after completion of concrete work.
 - During the construction period, French Meadows Reservoir water surface elevation shall be maintained via releases through the low-level outlet and/or the French Meadows Powerhouse. (Consistent with APM 9.)
- Poured concrete shall be isolated from contact with water and allowed to dry/cure for a minimum of 15 days following its pouring. Moreover, the water level of French Meadows Reservoir shall not be allowed to rise over the new boat ramp until the concrete has set for at least 15 days. (Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.30.)
 - If the water level within the reservoir is forecast to reach 5,177 feet within 15 days after concrete has been poured, the Permittee shall route water around the concrete for the remainder of the 15 days.

- To allow concrete to sufficiently dry, concrete shall not be poured within 72 hours of a precipitation event, as defined in Condition 3. (Consistent with APM 9 and CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.31.)
- Within 15 days after concrete has been poured, if there is a forecast precipitation event as defined in Condition 3, a plastic impermeable material shall be placed over the concrete area. (Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.33.)
- The Permittee shall ensure the containment of concrete washout areas and other washout areas to prevent the discharge of potential pollutants into the underlying soil, surrounding areas, or waters of the state. (Consistent with APM 10.)
- Solid waste receptacles, including concrete and paint washouts, shall be covered when not in use, at the end of each day, and prior to precipitation events as defined in Condition 3. (Consistent with APM 10.)
- At all times when the Permittee is pouring or working with wet concrete, there shall be a designated monitor to inspect the containment structures and ensure that no concrete or other debris is released outside of the containment structures.
- Any surface water or runoff to surface water that comes in contact with wet concrete or concrete within 15 days of its pouring shall be collected and treated, as feasible, or disposed of in accordance with local and state laws. The Permittee shall implement reporting and clean up measures detailed in Condition 4(E) and other measures as appropriate and report the incident to the Deputy Director and Executive Officer within 24 hours and immediately implement pH monitoring in French Meadows Reservoir. Monitoring shall occur: (1) at a location in French Meadows Reservoir outside the influence of the Project activities; and (2) adjacent to the work or runoff site. Monitoring shall be conducted in 15-minute or more frequent intervals using an automated sensor system. The Permittee shall monitor pH to ensure the Project discharge does not exceed the *Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin* (Central Valley Basin Plan) pH water quality objective that pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. The Permittee shall submit pH monitoring to the Deputy Director weekly if monitoring is implemented due to water contacting concrete in accordance with this term. The Deputy Director may require additional corrective measures and/or changes to the monitoring based on reporting and available information in the record.

4(C) Vehicles and Equipment

- All equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, grease, and other potential containments prior to entering the Project area and shall be inspected to ensure that it is in proper functioning condition. All suspect hoses and hydraulic lines shall be replaced prior to entering the Project area. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Fac-7.)
 - All power equipment and vehicles shall be free of petroleum residue, kept in good working order, and inspected each day for leaks prior to use. Leaks shall be repaired immediately in an area at least 100 feet away from waterbodies. (Consistent with CDFW LAA Avoidance and Minimization Measure 2.18.)

- Commercial washing facilities that have proper wastewater treatment systems shall be used whenever possible.
- Equipment shall be staged overnight in areas with secondary containment or with other suitable barriers to prevent accidental leakage of fuel, oils, or other liquid from soaking into the soil or reaching to surface waters.
- A designated fueling site, if necessary, shall be established outside of French Meadows Reservoir. Absorbent spill clean-up materials and spill kits shall be available to absorb small spills. All used absorbent materials shall be disposed of properly. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Road-10.)
 - Vehicle fueling shall be located at least 100 feet away from any waterbodies. Drip pans and/or absorbent pads shall be used during equipment fueling.
 - Vehicle fueling shall be performed by trained personnel.

4(D) Storage of Hazardous Materials

- All hazardous materials, including petroleum-based materials, shall be contained in appropriate spill-proof containers and/or have secondary containment and be stored in designated areas at least 100 feet away from surface waters, and shall not be stored in or near a floodplain, wetland, or riparian habitat.
- Hazardous materials and waste generated onsite, such as grease cartridges and oil absorbents, shall be placed in proper containers, labeled appropriately, and transported from the job site to an authorized hazardous waste consolidation site or appropriate landfill for proper disposal in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Road-10.)
- The Permittee shall use suitable measures around vehicle service, storage, and fueling areas, chemical storage and use areas, and waste dumps to fully contain spills and avoid or minimize soil contamination and seepage to groundwater.
 - Temporary fuel tanks shall have adequate local containment consisting of berms and plastic sheeting to protect against accidental spills or leaks. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Road-10.) Bulk fuel storage tanks shall be double-walled or placed in secondary containment areas.
- All containment structures shall comply with California Code of Regulations, title 27, section 20320.

4(E) Hazardous Waste Release

- The Permittee shall conduct visual pollutant monitoring of French Meadows Reservoir (e.g., for oily sheens) throughout all Project activities. If visual monitoring determines that the Project resulted in an exceedance of a water quality objective described in the Central Valley Basin Plan or if Project-related hazardous materials are released with the potential to impact surface waters, the Permittee shall immediately cease any Project activities associated with the release and implement measures to limit and clean up the release. The Permittee shall notify the Deputy Director and the Executive Officer promptly, and in no case more than 24 hours, following the release. The notice shall include the type and quantity of material released, cause of the release, corrective measures taken, and measures the Permittee will implement to prevent future releases.

The Deputy Director may require additional actions to help prevent similar releases in the future. Work activities may only resume after corrective actions have been implemented, if applicable, and the Deputy Director has provided approval to proceed.

- Any spills shall be cleaned up immediately using absorbent material or, if necessary, by constructing berms, and shall not be buried or washed with water. All media affected by a spill, including soils, shall be cleaned up and disposed of offsite in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Contaminated soil shall be excavated, contained, and transported to an approved disposal site.
- The Permittee shall create and implement a chemical spill contingency plan (in accordance with Forest Service Handbook 2109.14, chapter 60 and 40 C.F.R. § 112) that includes actions to be taken and/or containment features to be installed to prevent contamination of water resulting from accidental spills of hazardous materials. The plan shall include notification lists, persons responsible for cleanup, requirements for notification, and guidelines for spill containment. A copy of the chemical spill prevention and contingency plan shall be retained onsite and shall be reviewed by all personnel and contractors involved in the Project. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Chem-5.)
 - The Permittee shall report spills and initiate suitable cleanup actions in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations. If any accidental releases of hazardous material occurs, immediate containment and cleanup shall be implemented, and appropriate agencies shall be notified. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Road-10.)
- A spill response kit shall be maintained at all active work areas. The Permittee shall ensure that hazardous spill kits are adequately stocked with necessary supplies and are maintained in accessible locations. Spill kits shall be required in all Permittee and contractor vehicles on site and at locations where pesticides are stored. (Consistent with Forest Service BMP Fac-6.) These kits shall be clearly marked and include oil-absorbent materials and tarps to contain and control any minor releases.

CONDITION 5: Reporting

5(A) Initial Report and Updates to Project Schedule

At least five business days prior to starting Project activities, the Permittee shall notify Central Valley Regional Water Board and State Water Board staff that Project activities are anticipated to begin and provide the anticipated schedule for the Project.

Throughout Project implementation, the Permittee shall provide Central Valley Regional Water Board and State Water Board staff with updates on any major changes to the Project schedule no fewer than five business days prior to the scheduled change.

5(B) Completion Report

Within 60 days of Project completion, the Permittee shall provide the Deputy Director with a Completion Report. The Completion Report shall comprehensively summarize:

- Project activities performed.
- Compliance with each condition of this certification and details of any failure to meet the certification requirements.
- Photographs to document:
 - Construction areas, in and around French Meadows Reservoir, including the existing boat ramp, construction of the boat ramp, and the area between the end of the construction footprint and the reservoir's water surface,
 - Staging area, including the concrete washout area, and
 - Final condition of the Project area following cleanup and restoration activities.
- Final inspection information with details documenting that cleanup and restoration of the Project area was satisfactorily completed.
- Details of any environmental protection measure inadequacies found during Project implementation and how they were addressed.
- Any applicable monitoring performed in accordance with the certification conditions.
- Details of Project-related adverse impacts to beneficial uses, if applicable.

Upon request from the Deputy Director or State Water Board staff, the Permittee shall provide additional information or meet with staff to discuss the Completion Report.

The Deputy Director may require the Permittee to implement corrective actions in response to the information provided in the Completion Report or new information in the record to ensure the protection of water quality and beneficial uses.

CONDITIONS 6 – 25

CONDITION 6. Unless otherwise specified in this certification or at the request of the Deputy Director, data and/or reports shall be submitted electronically in a format accepted by the State Water Board to facilitate the incorporation of this information into public reports and the State Water Board's water quality database systems in compliance with California Water Code section 13167.

CONDITION 7. This certification does not authorize any act which results in the take 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 (ESA) (Fish & G. Code, §§ 2050 – 2097) or the federal ESA (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 – 1544). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this certification or water rights held by the Permittee, the Permittee must obtain authorization for the take 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 ESAs for the Project authorized under this certification.

CONDITION 8. This certification shall not be construed as replacement or substitution for any necessary federal, state, and local approvals. The Permittee is responsible for compliance with all applicable federal, state, or local laws or ordinances and shall obtain authorization from applicable regulatory agencies prior to the commencement of Project activities.

CONDITION 9. Any requirement in this certification that refers to an agency whose authorities and responsibilities are transferred to or subsumed by another state or federal agency, will apply equally to the successor agency.

CONDITION 10. Nothing in this certification shall be construed as State Water Board approval of the validity of any water rights, including pre-1914 or riparian claims. The State Water Board has separate authority under the Water Code to investigate and take enforcement action, if necessary, to prevent any unauthorized or threatened unauthorized diversions of water.

CONDITION 11. This certification is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including but not limited to review and amendment pursuant to Water Code section 13330 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 28, article 6 (commencing with section 3867).

CONDITION 12. This certification is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a FERC license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent application for certification was filed pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3855, subdivision (b), and that application for certification specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.

CONDITION 13. This certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 28.

CONDITION 14. Notwithstanding any more specific provision of this certification, any plan or report developed as a condition of this certification requires review and approval by the Deputy Director. The State Water Board's approval authority, including authority delegated to the Deputy Director or others, includes the authority to withhold approval or to require modification of a plan, proposal, or report prior to approval. The State Water Board may take enforcement action if the Permittee fails to provide or implement a required item in a timely manner. Notwithstanding any other condition of this certification, if a time extension is needed to submit an item for Deputy Director review and consideration of approval, the Permittee shall submit a written request for the extension, with justification, to the Deputy Director no later than 15 days prior to the deadline. The Permittee shall not implement any plan, proposal, or report until after the applicable State Water Board approval and any other necessary regulatory approvals.

CONDITION 15. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, including if monitoring results indicate that Project activities could violate water quality objectives or impair beneficial uses, the violation or threatened violation is subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under applicable state or federal law. For the 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 ensure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this certification. In response to any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, the Permittee shall, by a deadline required by the Deputy Director, submit a plan that documents why the violation occurred and steps the Permittee will implement to address the violation. The Permittee shall implement the plan upon approval from the Deputy Director, and the Deputy Director may require changes as part of any approval to ensure the protection of water quality and beneficial uses or compliance with water quality control plans, policies, or other applicable requirements of state law.

CONDITION 16. The Permittee shall submit any change to the Project, including operations, facilities, technology changes or upgrades, or methodology, which could have a significant or material effect on the findings, conclusions, or conditions of this certification, to the State Water Board for prior review and written approval, unless otherwise specified. The State Water Board shall determine significance and may require consultation with other state and/or federal agencies. If the State Water Board is not notified of a change to the Project, it will be considered a violation of this certification. If such a change would also require submission to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the change must first be submitted and approved by the State Water Board unless otherwise delegated in this certification or other State Water Board approval.

CONDITION 17. This certification is contingent on compliance with all applicable requirements of the Central Valley Basin Plan and any amendments thereto.

CONDITION 18. Reports and plans submitted by the Licensee for approval under this certification shall consider the effects of the Project in relation to compliance with all applicable water quality control plans and policies and, as necessary, propose updates to the Project to ensure protection of water quality and beneficial uses and compliance with other appropriate requirements of state law. The Deputy Director may identify the need for, and set a deadline for, submittal of a report and/or plan focused on additional assessment of potential impacts to water quality and beneficial uses that may have changed from the baseline assumptions used to develop the conditions of the certification, along with recommended changes to address the new or changed water quality control plan or policy beneficial uses and/or water quality objectives. The Deputy Director may include recommendations regarding potential actions that shall be considered by the Licensee in this report and/or plan to ensure ongoing protection of water quality and beneficial uses and compliance with other applicable requirements of state law. The Licensee shall implement the plan upon approval by the Deputy Director and any other required approvals, and the Deputy Director may require changes as part of any approval.

CONDITION 19. Unless otherwise specified by conditions in this certification, Project activities shall be conducted in a manner consistent with all 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 Permittee shall take all reasonable measures to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state, including French Meadows Reservoir.

CONDITION 20. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this certification, the State Water Board or Central Valley Regional Water Board may require the holder of any federal permit or license subject to this certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the State Water Board deems 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. (Wat. Code, §§ 1051, 13165, 13267, and 13383.)

CONDITION 21. Upon request, a construction schedule shall be provided to the Deputy Director. The Permittee shall provide State Water Board and Central Valley Regional Water Board staff access to Project sites to document compliance with this certification.

CONDITION 22. A copy of this certification shall be provided to any contractor and all subcontractors conducting Project-related work, and copies shall remain in their possession at the Project site. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its contractor, subcontractors, or other persons conducting Project-related work.

CONDITION 23. The Permittee shall use analytical methods approved by California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, where such methods are available. Samples that require laboratory analysis shall be analyzed by Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program-certified laboratories.

CONDITION 24. The State Water Board shall provide notice and an opportunity to be heard in exercising its authority to add to or modify the conditions of this certification.

CONDITION 25. The Permittee shall ensure no net loss of wetland or riparian habitat functions and is responsible for compliance with the Dredge or Fill Procedures (State Water Board 2019b and 2021) and any amendments thereto, and Water Code sections 16200-16201.

CONDITION 26. Certification that the Project will be protective of water quality standards and beneficial uses in compliance with state and federal water quality standards and other appropriate requirements of state law is dependent upon the conditions and limitations imposed by this certification; however, to ensure the validity of this certification upon any challenge that is not addressed by another condition of this certification, the provisions of this certification are severable. If any provision of this certification is found invalid, affects the validity of the certification, or would result in a determination that the State Water Board has waived its section 401 certification authority for the Project, the remainder of this certification shall not be affected. Upon remand from determination on administrative or judicial review that a provision of this

certification is invalid or affects the validity of the certification the State Water Board may adopt an alternative term that addresses the water quality issue while avoiding the invalidity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Oppenheimer", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Eric Oppenheimer
Executive Director

September 29, 2026
Date

8.0 References

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2026. Lake Alteration Agreement, EPIMS Notification No. PLA- 62967-R2, French Meadows Reservoir, French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project. Submitted April 8, 2026.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Regional Water Board). 2019. *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin* (Central Valley Basin Plan). Revised February 2019 (with Approved Amendments). Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/#basinplans. Accessed July 28, 2026.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). 2012. Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hydropower Relicense, Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project – FERC Project No. 2079-069. July 23, 2012.

FERC. 2012. Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Hydropower License, Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project – FERC Project No. 2079- 069. Submitted July 23, 2012.

FERC. 2013. Final Environmental Impact Statement for Hydropower License, Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project – FERC Project No. 2079- 069. Submitted February 22, 2013.

FERC. 2020. Order Issuing New License re Placer County Water Agency under P-2079. Available at: <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>. Accession number 20200608-3013. Accessed September 4, 2026.

PCWA. 2012. Draft CEQA Supplement to the FERC Draft EIS for the Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079-068). Placer County, California. Submitted December 6, 2012.

PCWA. 2013. Final CEQA Supplement to the FERC Final EIS for the Middle Fork American River Project (FERC Project No. 2079-069). Placer County, California. Submitted April 26, 2013.

PCWA. 2025. 401 Water Quality Certification Permit Application, French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project. Placer County, California. Submitted September 30, 2025.

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). 1968. Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California. Resolution No. 68-16. Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/1968/rs68_016.pdf. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2012. Delegation of Authority to State Water Resources Control Board Members Individually and to the Deputy Director for Water Rights.

Resolution No. 2012-0029. Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0029.pdf. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2018. Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/docs/2018wqcp.pdf. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2019. State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State. Resolution No. 2019-0015 and any amendments thereto. Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/wrapp.html. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2021. Confirmation That the “State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State” (1) Are in Effect as State Policy for Water Quality Control for All Waters of The State and (2) Shall be Applied via the Inland Surface Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan to only Waters of The United States. Resolution No. 2021- 0012. Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2021/rs2021-0012.pdf. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2022. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (General Permit). Water Quality Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ and NPDES No. CAS000002 and any amendments thereto. Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction/general_permit_reissuance.html. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2023a. Redelegation of Authorities Memorandum. April 20, 2023.

State Water Board. 2023b. San Francisco Bay/Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta) Program - Update of the Bay-Delta Plan: Delta Outflows, Sacramento River and Delta Tributary Inflows, Cold Water Habitat and Interior Delta Flows Webpage. Available at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/comp_review.html. Accessed July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2024. *California Integrated Report for Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) and 305(b)*. Available at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2024-integrated-report.html. Accessed on July 28, 2026.

State Water Board. 2026. August 2026 Draft Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/ Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). Available at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/bay_delta_plan/docs/aug2026-fnl-draft-sacdelta-bdplan.pdf. Accessed on September 4, 2026.

**FRENCH MEADOWS BOAT RAMP EXTENSION PROJECT
WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**

**ATTACHMENT A:
PROJECT OVERVIEW MAPS**

French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project
Water Quality Certification
Attachment A: Project Overview Maps

DATE

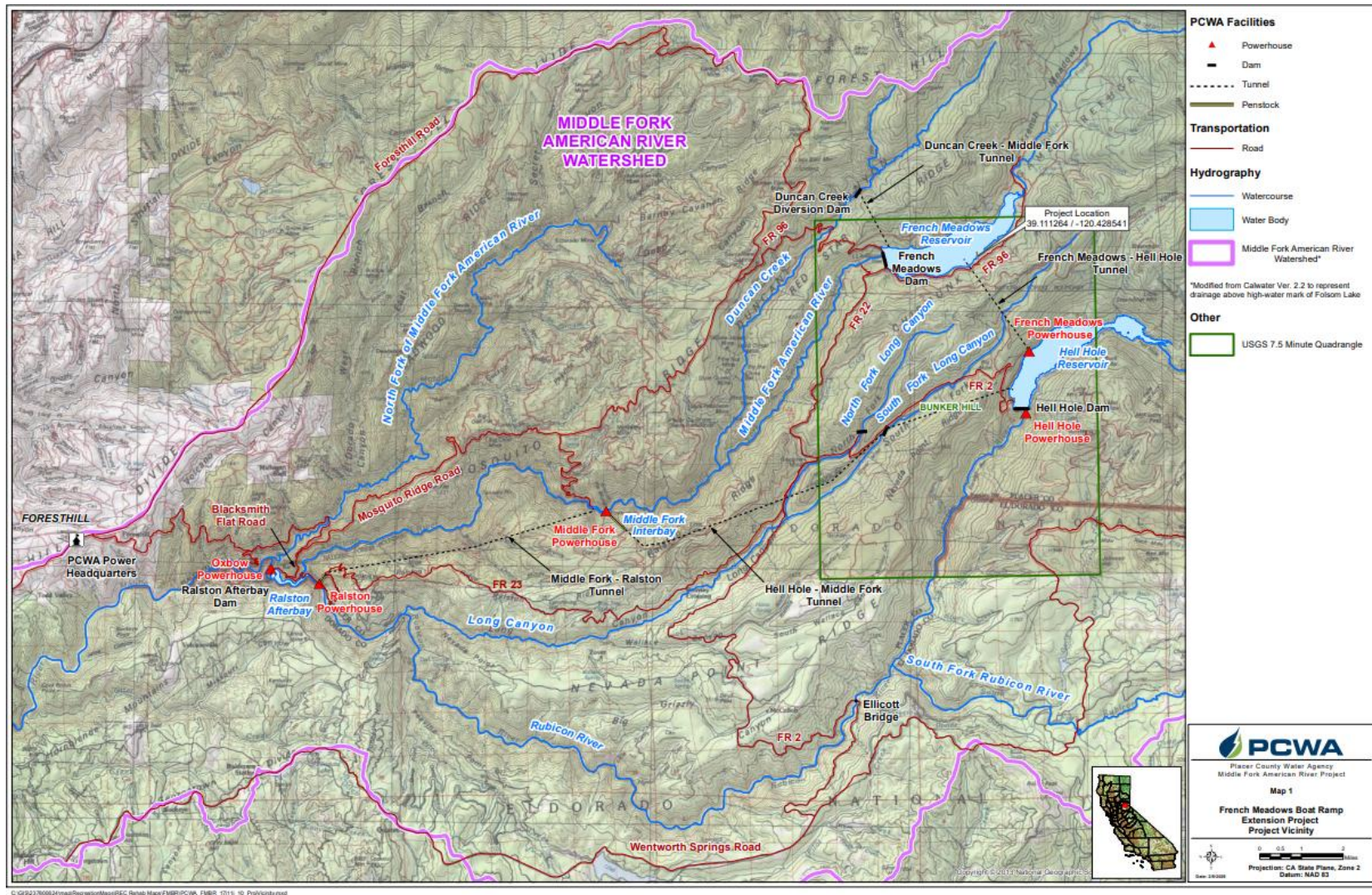


Figure 1. Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project Location

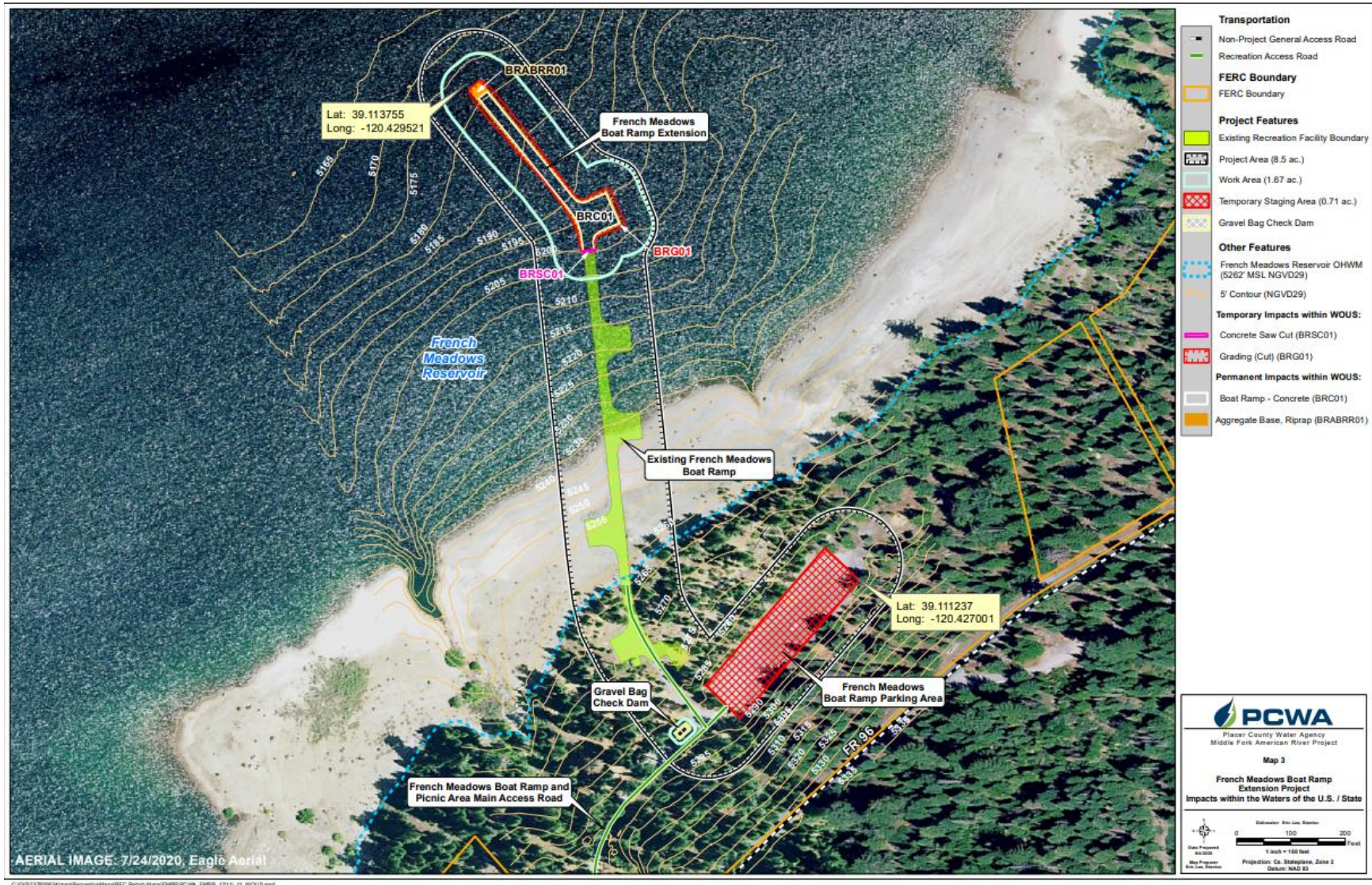


Figure 2. French Meadows Boat Ramp Extension Project Area and Waters of the United States Impacts