
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 September 2025

Serena Doose
California Trout
701 S Mount Shasta Blvd., Suite A
Mount Shasta, CA 96067

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER
QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS FILE
NO. SB12006GN FOR CALIFORNIA TROUT, MCCLOUD RIVER REDBAND
REFUGE POOL HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (WDID NO. 5A47CR00067),
SISKIYOU COUNTY**

On 9 September 2025, California Trout (Applicant) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting coverage under the 27 March 2013 State Water Resources Control Board Amended Order for Clean Water Act 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No. SB12006GN (General Order) for the McCloud River Redband Refuge Pool Habitat Enhancement Project (Project). After reviewing the NOI and supplemental materials submitted by the Applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under the General Order.

This Notice of Applicability (NOA) is being issued to California Trout (hereinafter Enrollee) by the Central Valley Water Board under the General Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

NOA Effective Date: 18 September 2025

NOA Expiration Date: 18 September 2030

A copy of the General Order is enclosed. The General Order may also be accessed on the [State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders Web Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2013) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders.html#yr_2013).

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this NOA and the General Order. The Project is described in the NOI requesting coverage and supplementary information (Application Package) submitted by the Enrollee and is limited to the impacts identified in the Application Package and described in this NOA. If

the Project is modified from that described in the Application Package, then coverage under the General Order is no longer valid.

I. Project Description

The Project proposes to improve hydrologic function and create drought resilient habitat for McCloud River redband trout, which are endemic to the Upper McCloud watershed and currently designated as a Species of Special Concern by California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW). The Project consists of two sites on the perennial reaches of Sheepheaven and Edson Creeks. The Enrollee, in coordination with Streamwise and CDFW, will implement a series of rock cross-vane step pool structures, as well as excavation of accumulated excess fine sediment materials, to develop pools in four locations on Edson Creek and enhance two existing pools on Sheepheaven Creek.

The two pools on Sheepheaven Creek need to be excavated, as the pools have filled in with fine sediment since the late 1970s when the original pools were built by CDFW. Excavation may be required on the pools on Edson Creek as well, although pool formation will primarily rely on the cross-vane structures as backwater grade control.

The focus of the work on Sheepheaven Creek and Edson Creek is installation of the rock cross-vane structures. Each cross-vane structure will consist of approximately 30 cubic yards of rock, with less than 10 cubic yards placed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Approximately one-third of the rock cross-vane structure will be in the thalweg of the creek.

Hydrologic conditions during construction in October are expected to be extremely low flow, likely with disconnected pools, at approximately 0.5 cubic feet per second flow. No dewatering activities will be associated with the project.

II. Project Location

**Sheepheaven Creek **

County: Siskiyou County

Nearest City: McCloud \

Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 027-010-030

Section 11, Township 40 North, Range 1 East, MDB&M

Latitude: 41.3329° and Longitude: -121.8241°

Edson Creek

County: Siskiyou County

Nearest City: McCloud

Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 018-180-010

Section 29, Township 41 North, Range 1 East, MDB&M

Latitude: 41.3766° and Longitude: -121.8862°

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

III. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Water Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fifth Edition, February 2019 (Basin Plan). The plan for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the [State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This NOA promotes that policy by requiring discharges to meet maximum contaminant levels designed to protect human health and ensure that water is safe for domestic use.

Project impact and receiving waters information can be found in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B shows the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact location and quantity are shown in Tables 2 and 3 of Attachment B.

IV. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the United States

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss of area and those degrading ecological conditions. Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts¹

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Sheepheaven Creek	0.07	18	105
Edson Creek	0.04	36	80

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include area of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state. Temporary impacts, by definition, are restored to pre-project conditions and therefore do not include a physical loss of area or degradation of ecological condition.

Table 2: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Sheepheaven Creek	0.06	60	100
Edson Creek	0.12	60	180

V. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15061.

Specifically, the issuance of this order and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects, which consists of projects not to exceed five acres to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

VI. Fees Received

An application fee of \$1,123.00 was received on 10 September 2025. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3) and was calculated as Category D – Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the Fiscal Year 24/25 Water Quality Certification Dredge and Fill Fee Calculator.

VII. Findings of Applicability

This letter serves as formal notice that Order No. SB12006GN is applicable to this fish habitat restoration project. Your waste discharge identification (WDID) number is 5A47CR00067.

VIII. Reporting

A Notice of Completion (NOC) shall be submitted by the Enrollee no later than 30 days after the work has been completed. The NOC shall demonstrate that the work has been carried out in accordance with the description provided in the Enrollee's NOI.

Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of Order No. SB12006GN may expose the Enrollee to enforcement action pursuant to the Clean Water Act and California Water Code.

If you require further assistance, please contact Daniel Warner by phone at (530) 224-4848 or by email at Daniel.Warner@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist of the Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit, by phone at (530) 224-2437 or by email at Lynn.Coster@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Clint E. Snyder, AEO

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

9/18/2025

Date

Attachments: Attachment A - Project Maps
Attachment B - Receiving Water, Impact, and Mitigation Information
Attachment C – CEQA

Enclosure: Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water
Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No.
SB12006GN

cc via email: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Unit, SWRCB, Sacramento
William Connor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District
Stacey Alexander, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Redding
Chad Aresenau, Sierra Pacific Industries, Redding
Kori Hutchinson, FWS Forestry, Redding
Tyanna Blaschak, California Trout, Mount Shasta

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Figure 1. Project Location Map

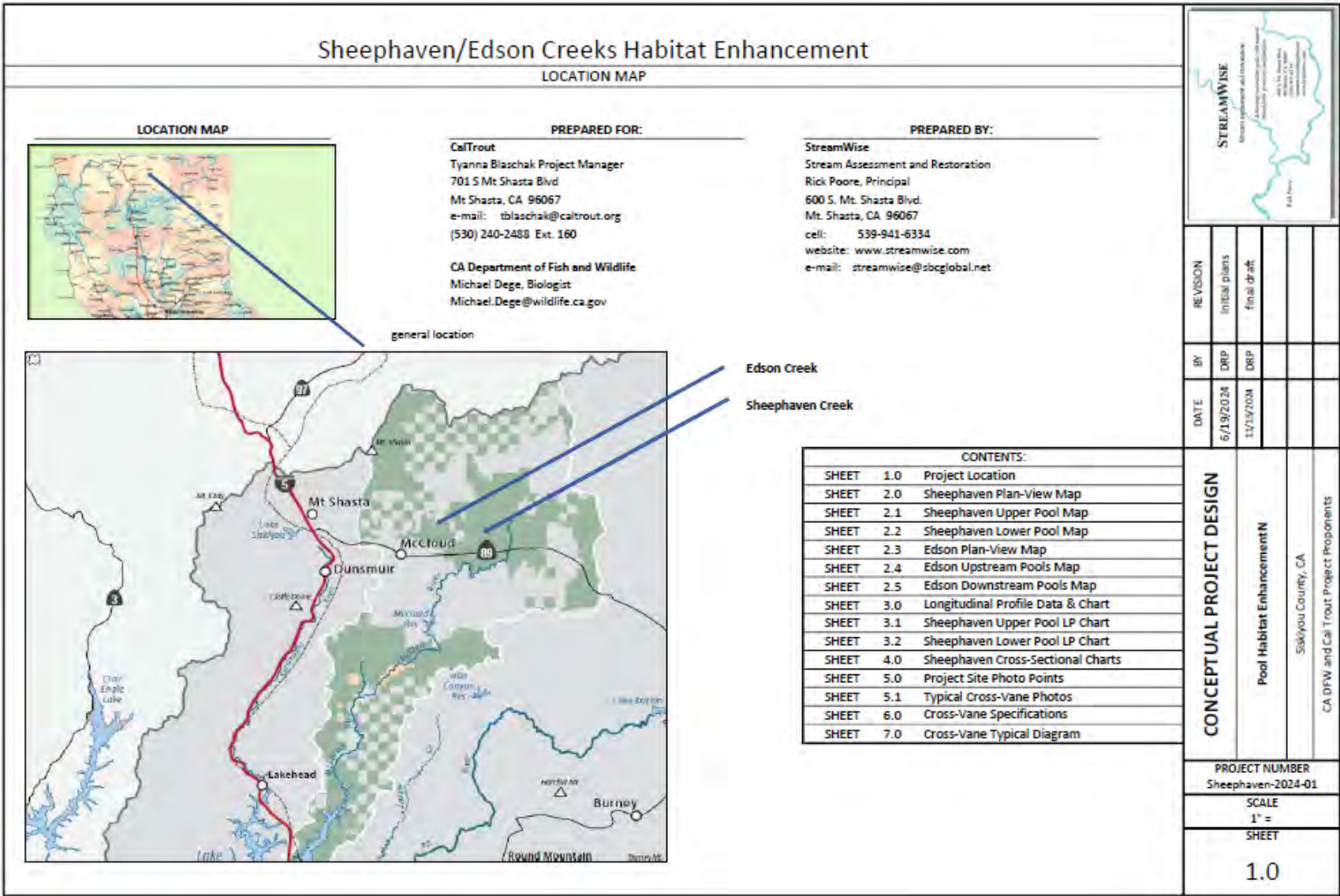


Figure 2. Sheepheaven Project Vicinity Map

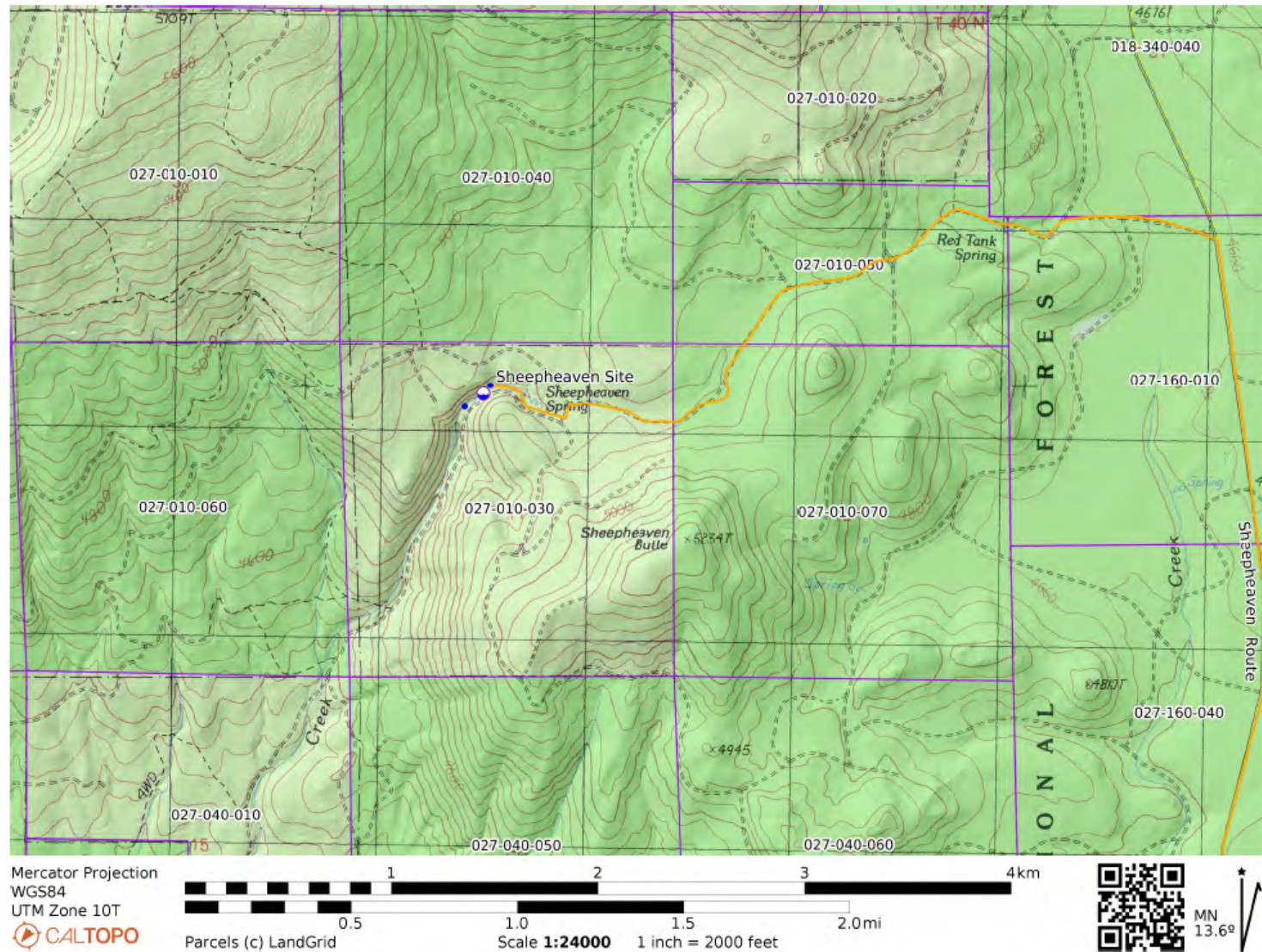


Figure 3. Sheepheaven Upper Pool Design and Impacts Map

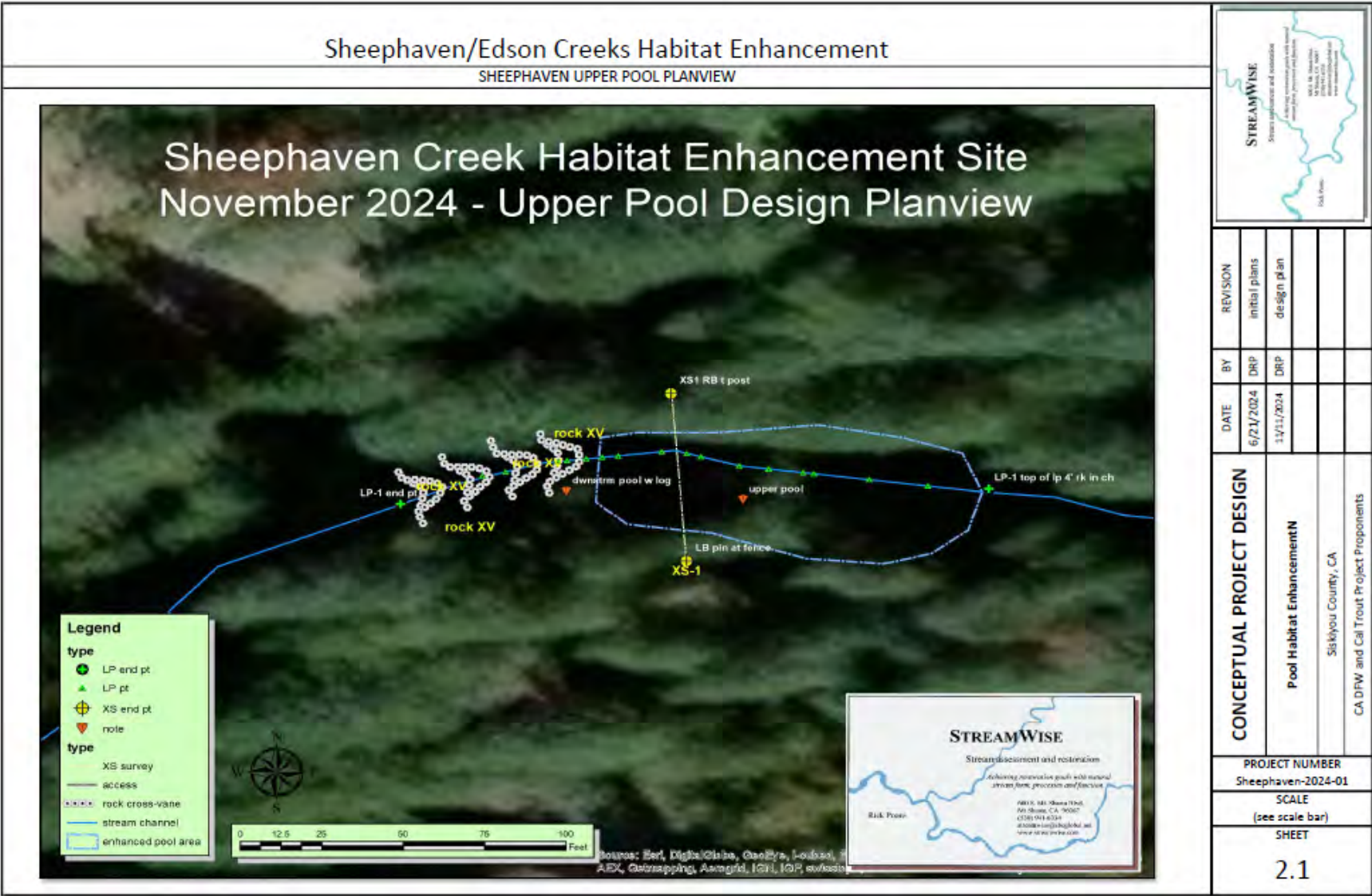


Figure 4. Sheepheaven Lower Pool Design and Impacts Map

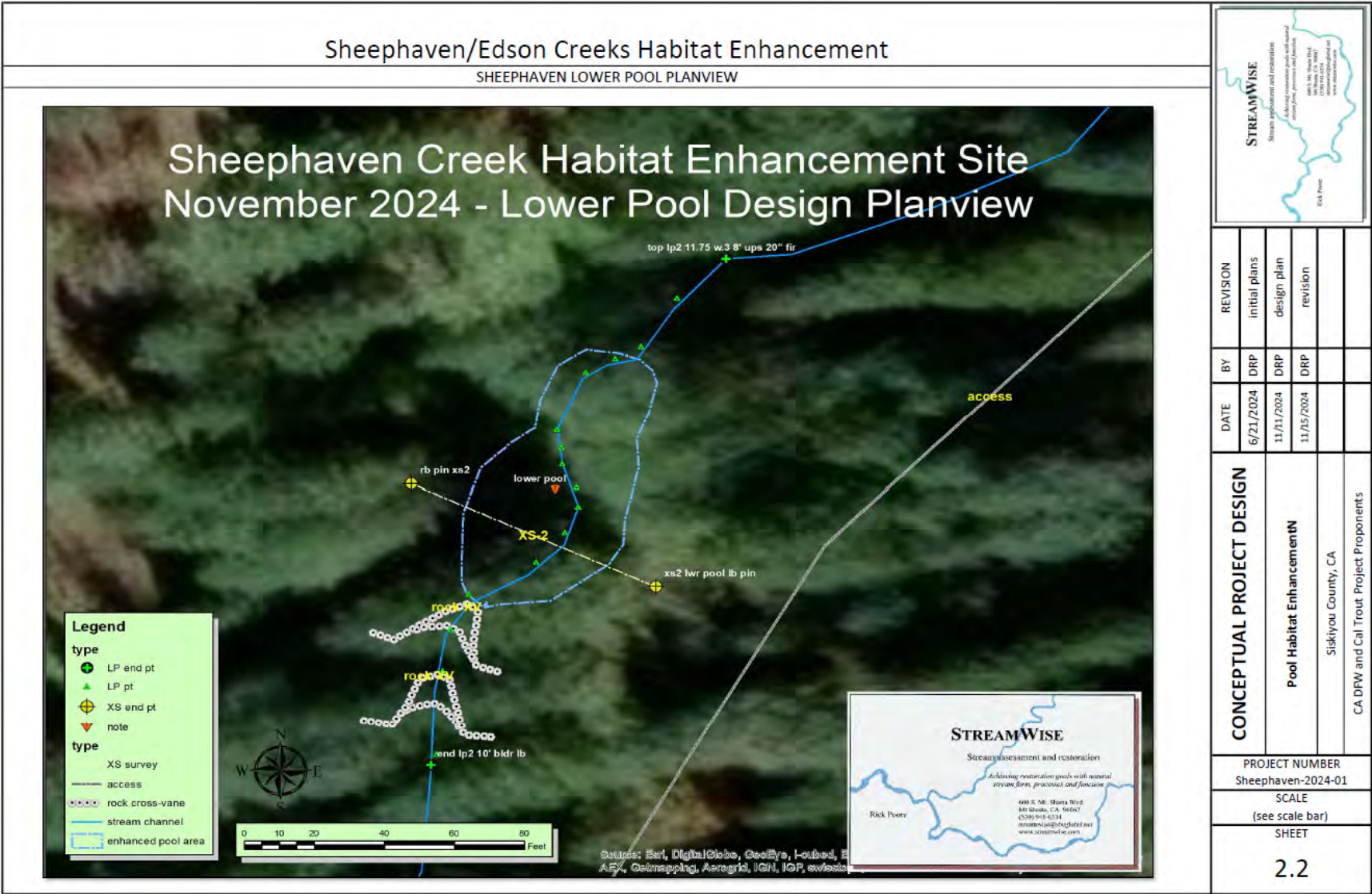


Figure 5. Edson Project Vicinity Map

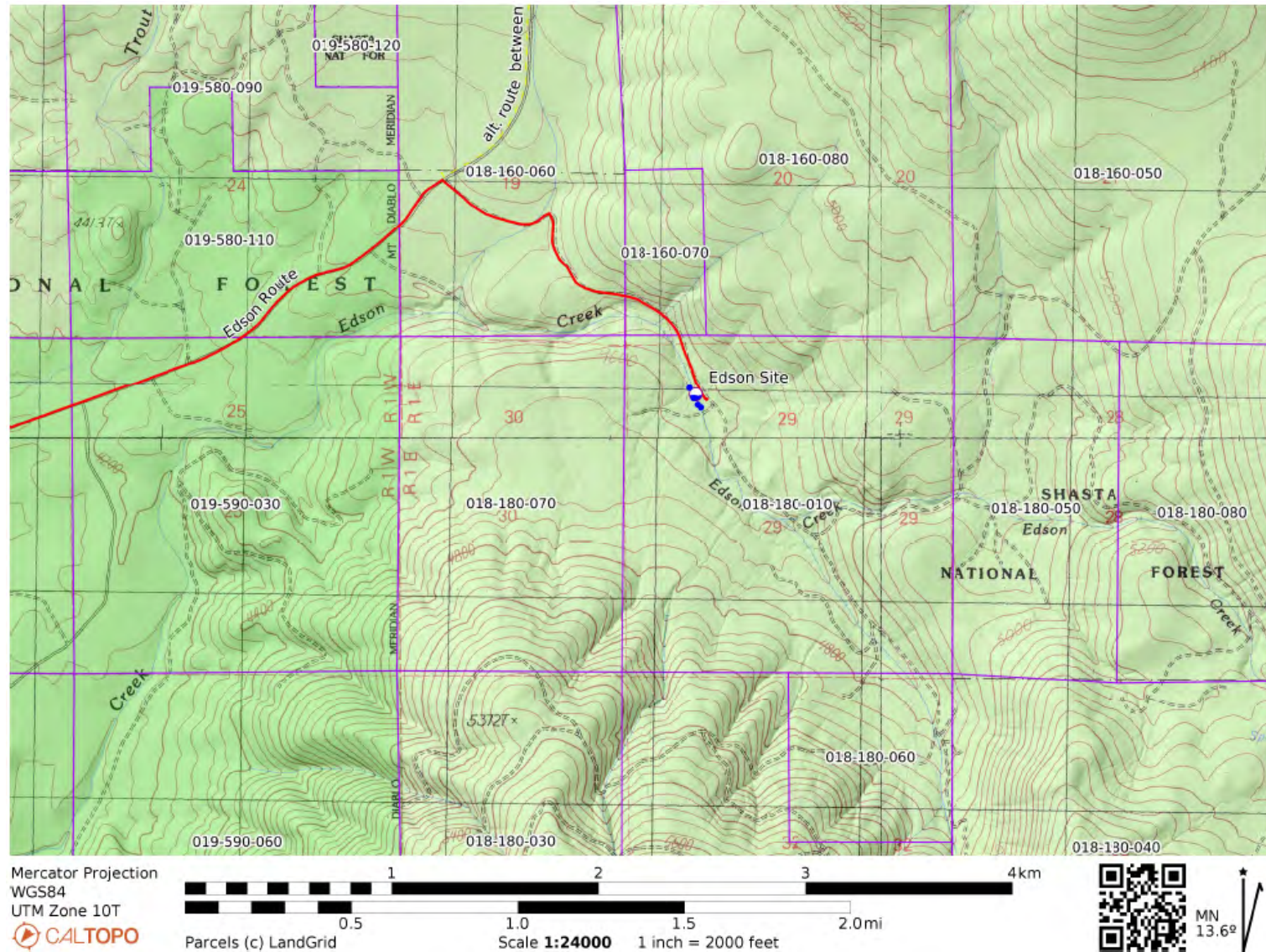


Figure 6. Edson Upper Pools Design and Impacts Map

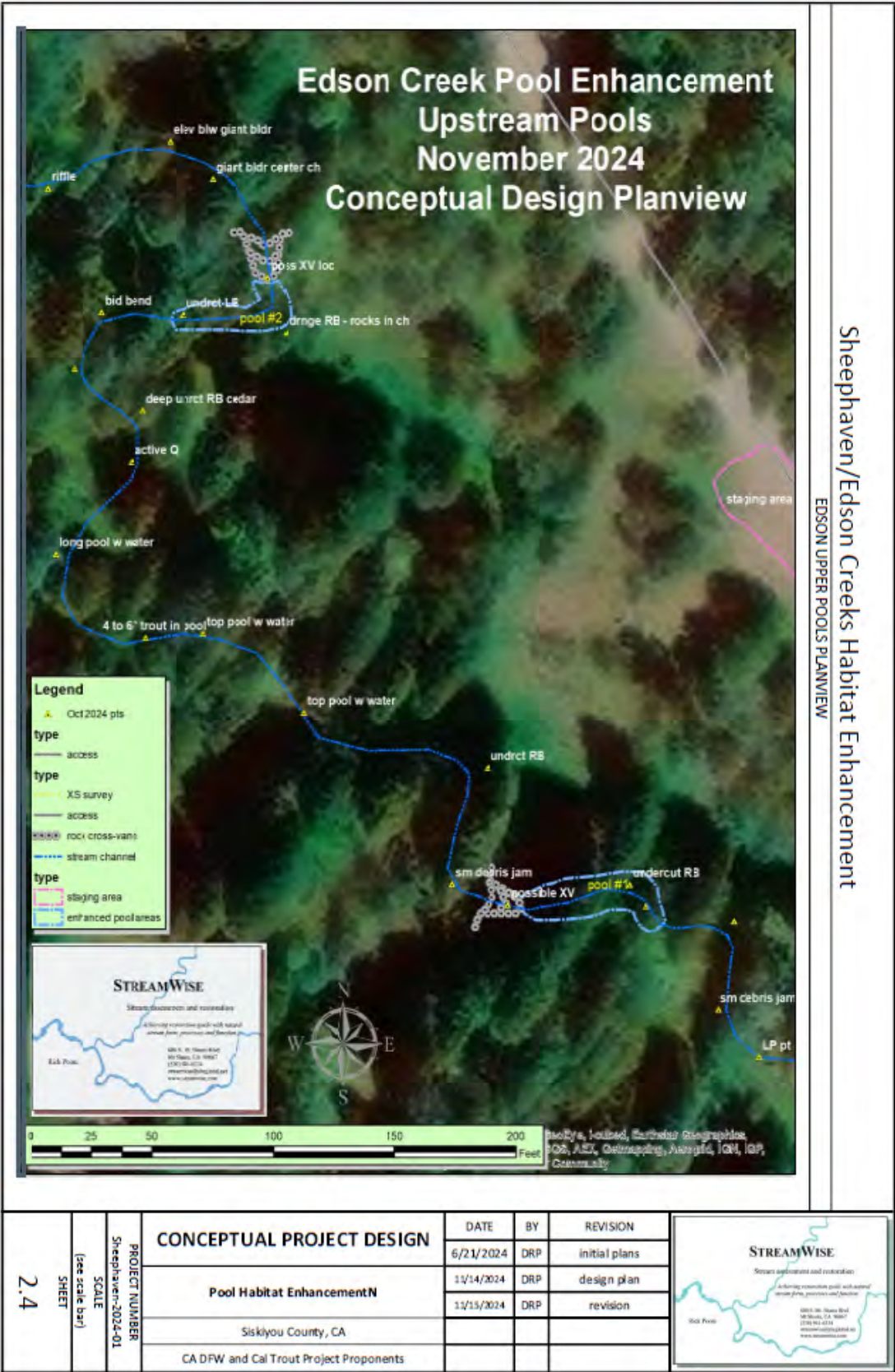


Figure 7. Edson Lower Pools Design and Impacts Map



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Receiving Waters, Impacts and Mitigation Information

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

Table 1: Receiving Waters Information

Site ID	Waterbody Name	Impacted Aquatic Resource Type	Water Board Hydrologic Units	Receiving Waters	Receiving Waters Beneficial Uses	303d Listing Pollutant	California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) ID
Sheepheaven Pools	Sheepheaven Creek	Stream	505.24	McCloud River	MUN, POW, REC-1, REC-2, COLD, SPWN, WILD	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Edson Pools	Edson Creek	Stream	505.24	McCloud River	MUN, POW, REC-1, REC-2, COLD, SPWN, WILD	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Individual Direct Impact Locations

The following tables show individual impacts.

Table 2: Individual Temporary Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Edson Pool 1	41.3775	-121.8872	No	0.01	9	20
Edson Pool 2	41.3771	-121.8872	No	0.01	9	20
Edson Pool 3	41.3766	-121.8869	No	0.01	9	20
Edson Pool 4	41.3763	-121.8867	No	0.01	9	20
Sheepheaven Upper Pool	41.3323	-121.8252	No	0.03	9	40
Sheepheaven Lower Pool	41.3332	-121.8237	No	0.04	9	65

Table 3: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Edson Pool 1	41.3775	-121.8872	No	0.03	15	45
Edson Pool 2	41.3771	-121.8872	No	0.03	15	45
Edson Pool 1	41.3766	-121.8869	No	0.03	15	45
Edson Pool 2	41.3763	-121.8867	No	0.03	15	45
Sheepheaven Upper Pool	41.3323	-121.8252	No	0.03	40	50
Sheepheaven Lower Pool	41.3332	-121.8237	No	0.03	20	50

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FINDINGS FOR CEQA EXEMPT PROJECT

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from review under CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333.

Specifically, the issuance of this Order and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15333, Small Habitat Restoration Projects. Class 33 consists of projects not to exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

Additionally, the Central Valley Water Board concludes that no California Code of Regulations, title 14, section exceptions to the CEQA exemption apply to the activities approved by this Order.

The Central Valley Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse within five (5) working days from the issuance of this Order. (California Code of Regulations., title 14, section 15062.)