



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 October 2019

Jennifer Johnson
Contra Costa Water District
P. O. Box H20
Concord, CA 94520

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT, LOS VAQUEROS GEOTECHNICAL PROJECT (WDID#5B07CR00217), CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

On 9 September 2019, the Contra Costa Water District (Applicant) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 17 March 2017 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification and Order of the United States Army Corps of Engineers 2017 Nationwide Permits (General Certification Order) for the Los Vaqueros Geotechnical Project (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material 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 this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within less than 0.002 acre of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit #6 (Survey Activities), subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the Nationwide Permit ("Special Conditions"). This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to § 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

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

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 9 September 2019, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 0.002-acre Project consists of drilling five 8-inch diameter borings into the Los Vaqueros Reservoir bottom for the geotechnical investigation of a proposed raised dam. The geotechnical investigation will be conducted via an anchored barge. An 8-inch diameter steel casing will be advanced through the water and into the reservoir bottom prior to drilling, creating a seal that will contain recirculated drilling fluid and solid/rock cuttings in order to reduce turbidity and grout discharge into the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. A smaller diameter drill rod will be placed into the steel casings to drill the core samples. Upon completion of drilling, a 1-inch diameter PVC pipe will be inserted through the drill rod, within the closed system, to pump cementitious grout into the borehole as backfill. The cementitious grout will fill most but not all the borehole to prevent overfilling. Afterward, the closed loop system will be flushed, and the steel casing will be removed, causing the native sediments around the casing to slump into the borehole, covering the cured cementitious grout. All cuttings and drill water will be pumped into a plastic tank and disposed of at an appropriate sanitary landfill.

The Project will temporarily impact 0.002 acre of waters of the United States. Dewatering will occur within the Project area. Wet cementitious grout will be placed into open water habitat after sealing the area with the 8-inch diameter steel casing. The wet cementitious grout must be completely cured and covered by native sediments before introducing native waters to the boring locations. The Project must adhere to Section XIII.H.7 in the General Certification Order.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES:

To minimize the potential effects of construction on water quality and resources, the Applicant shall implement all measures required as described in the General Certification Order. According to the Applicant, the following measure will be in place during construction activities to avoid, reduce, and minimize impacts to waters of the state:

The barge will contain a spill containment and clean up kit on board and will be surrounded by a floating sorbent boom to prevent inadvertent spills from escaping beyond the barge into the reservoir.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Section 22 & 23, Township 01 South, Range 02 East, MDB&M

Latitude: 37.83681°N and Longitude: 121.7322°W

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

3 November 2019 through 20 November 2019

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$1,638.00 was received on 9 September 2019.

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 E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Jordan Hensley at (916) 464-4812 or Jordan.Hensley@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by James Marshall for

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Figure 1 – Project Location Map
Figure 2 – Site Impact Map

Enclosure: Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification and Order for the State Water Board Certification of the 2017 Nationwide Permits

cc: [Via email only]

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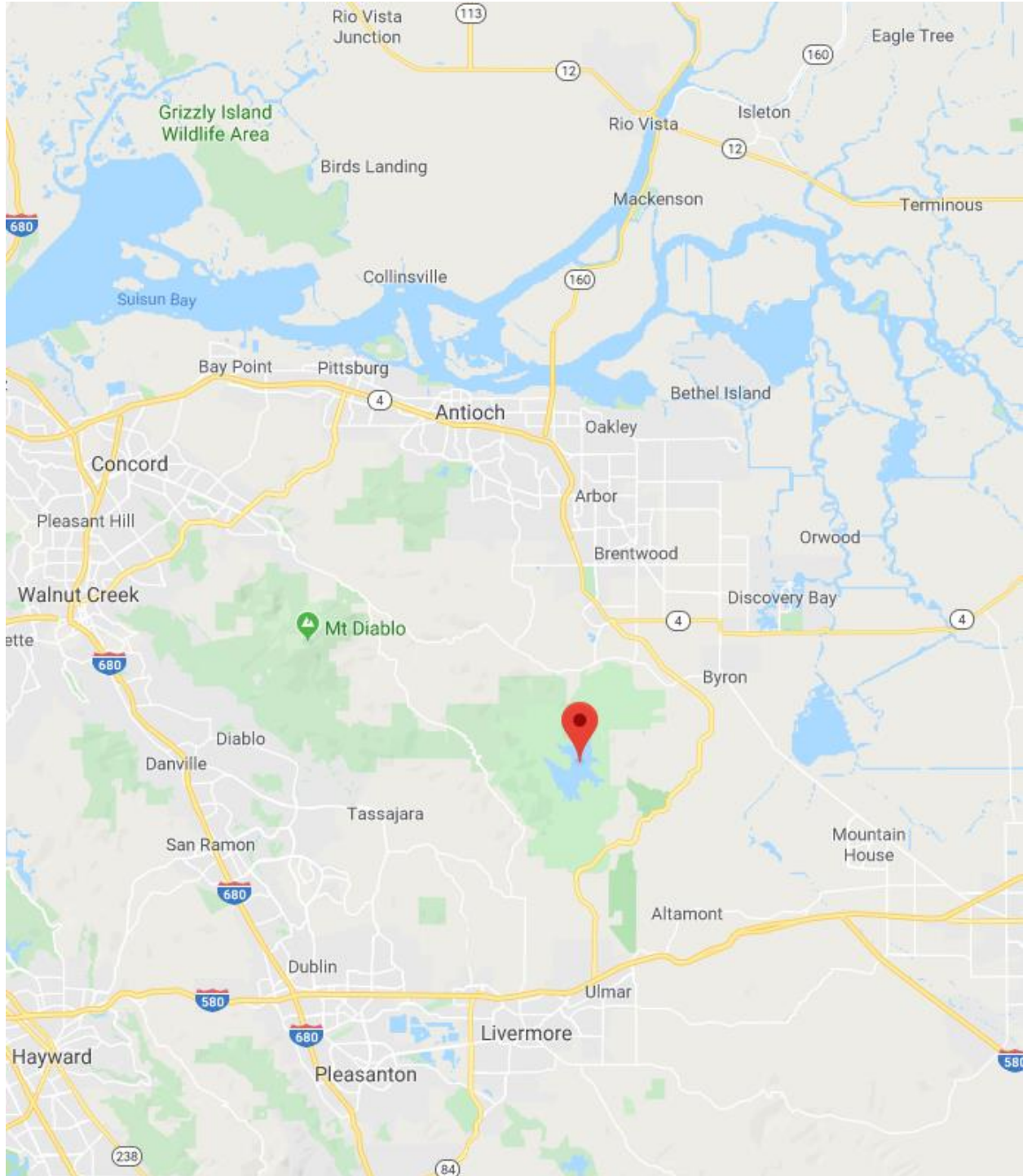


Figure 1 – Project Location Map



Figure 2 – Site Impact Map