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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

7 August 2024

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### **ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MERCED PAVEMENT ANCHOR PROJECT (PROJECT) (WDID NO. 5B24CR00109A1), MERCED COUNTY**

This Order responds to the 17 July 2024 request for an amendment of the Merced Pavement Anchor Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID No. 5B24CR00109). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 1 November 2023. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

This amendment is not valid until and unless an amendment to the Section 404 Permit with equivalent modifications is approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or it is otherwise determined by USACE that an amendment of the 404 Permit is unnecessary.

#### **AMENDMENT:**

Caltrans (hereinafter Permittee) is requesting an amendment to the Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Order to include a dewatering plan for Mariposa Creek. Dewatering was not included in the original Project description as work was expected to occur when the work area was dry. Therefore, Section IV and Attachment A of the Certification are amended as described and shown below.

#### Amendment A1.1

Section IV is replaced in its entirety with the project description below:

#### **IV. Project Description**

The proposed Project would repair and overlay approximately 12.1 miles of existing Asphalt Concrete (AC) pavement on SR 59 from Madera County Line (post mile [PM] 0.00) to Reilly Road (PM 12.1) in Merced County. Several culverts would also be replaced or newly installed at four locations (PMs 1.01, 2.02, 4.56, and 6.03), and three

dry wells (drainage inlets) would be installed (one replaced and two new installed) along SR 59 at PM 3.61 to improve roadside drainage. Additionally, Caltrans would perform minor pavement preservation and guard rail upgrades at Deadman Creek Bridge (PM 7.9), Owens Creek Bridge (PM 11.37), and Miles Creek Bridge (PM 11.89). The Mariposa Creek Bridge (PM 10.38) would be removed and replaced.

The removal of existing piles at Mariposa Creek Bridge will likely take place when the flow in the creek is dry to avoid the need for water diversion. If a temporary water diversion is needed due to the amount of water present in the creek, a possible diversion may include the use of coffer dams and pipes to transfer the water from one side of the highway to the other. If needed, approximately 0.34 acre of the channel may be dewatered. The dewatering plan must be consistent with this Order and must be made available to Central Valley Water Board staff upon request. Construction at Mariposa Bridge is proposed to occur over two construction seasons, from May through October.

#### Amendment A1.2

Attachment A is amended to add Figure 3 as seen on page 3 below:

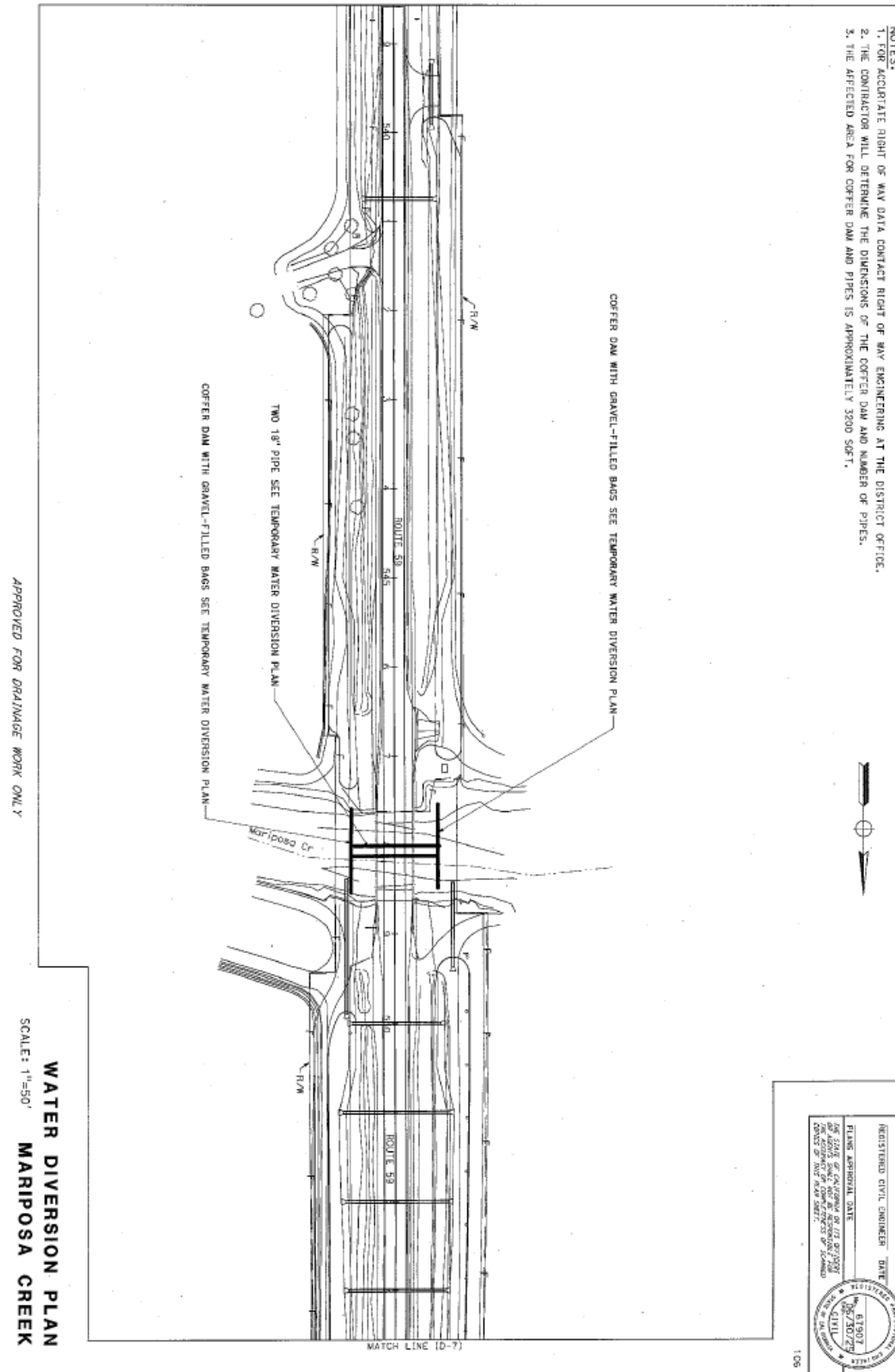


Figure 3: Preliminary Dewatering Plan

**CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:**

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**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the Merced Pavement Anchor Project (WDID#5B24CR00109A1). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

Original Signed by Christina Shupe  
For Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

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