

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

10 June 2026

Michael Cook
California Department of Transportation
1976 East Charter Way
Stockton, CA 95205
Michael.Cook@dot.ca.gov

ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SR-4 SAN JOAQUIN CAPM PROJECT (WDID#5B39CR00393A2), SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

This Order responds to the 13 May 2026 request for an amendment of the SR-4 San Joaquin CAPM Project (Project) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5B39CR00393). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 2 February 2024 and amended on 27 September 2024. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

AMENDMENT:

The California Department of Transportation is requesting an update to the language in the Avoidance and Minimization, Designated Biologist section. The language requires a Designated Biologist to be approved by a “regulatory agency” prior to acceptance by the California Department of Transportation. The Water Board does not have the authority to approve biologists and this language needs to be clarified to identify the correct regulatory agency, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Certification is amended as shown below:

Designated Biologist:

A Designated Biologist or biologists shall be onsite during any activities that have the potential to affect sensitive biological resources. The Designated Biologist will monitor regulated species and habitats; ensure that construction activities do not result in the unintended take of regulated species or disturbances to regulated habitats; ensure that construction activities comply with any permits, licenses, agreements, or contracts; immediately notify the Caltrans Resident Engineer of any take of regulated species, disturbances to regulated habitats, or breaches of environmentally sensitive areas; and prepare, submit, and sign notifications and reports. A Designated Biologist who performs specialized activities must have

demonstrated field experience working with the regulated species or performing the specialized task and must have United States Fish and Wildlife Service approval when working with species or in habitats regulated by the Federal Endangered Species Act prior to Caltrans' acceptance of the Designated Biologist.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

No fee was required for this amendment. Total fees of \$2,985.00 for the original Certification were received on 11 December 2023. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3383(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3), as was calculated as category E - Low Impact Discharges (fee code 87) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT:

Jenna Yang, Water Resource Control Engineer
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114
Jenna.Yang@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 464-4764

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the SR-4 San Joaquin CAPM Project (WDID#5B39CR00393A2). 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 Anne Walters
For Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

cc: Distribution List, page 3

DISTRIBUTION LIST [via email only]

Matthew Hirkala (SPK-2023-00763)
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District Office
Regulatory Division
Matthew.J.Hirkala@usace.army.mil
SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil

United States Environmental Protection Agency
R9CWA401@epa.gov

CWA Section 401 WQC Program
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
StateBoard401@waterboards.ca.gov

Richard McHenry
CA Sportfishing Protection Alliance
RMcHenry@calsport.org

Kalli Fenk
California Department of Transportation
Kalli.Fenk@dot.ca.gov