
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

23 July 2026

Jon Christensen
2111 Glencoe Avenue
Venice, CA 90921

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER NO. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTORATION PROJECTS STATEWIDE, WINDY SPRINGS MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT (WDID# 5C54CR00174), TULARE COUNTY

On 20 May 2026, Jon Christensen (Permittee) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for Restoration Projects Statewide (General Certification Order), which was adopted on 16 August 2022.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed your enrollment materials and finds the Windy Springs Meadow Restoration Project (Project) meets the requirements of, and is hereby enrolled under, Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ. You may proceed with your Project in accordance with the Order. This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of [Order WQ 2022-0048-DWQ](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2022/wqo2022-0048-dwq.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2022/wqo2022-0048-dwq.pdf) can be found on the State Water Board's General Orders webpage.

The Project is described in the NOI requesting coverage under the General Certification Order and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified. Failure to comply with Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 2.99-acre Project consists of correcting the hydrologic alterations to Windy Springs Meadow caused by historical ranching infrastructure, channelization, and meadow berm

construction. The Project will restore the natural hydrologic and ecological functions of Windy Springs Meadow, its associated springs, and the intermittent tributary that flows through the meadow. Work includes removing artificial containment structures from two springheads, reestablishing the natural spring outflow channel through localized bank grading and cobble placement, and lowering or removing two man-made berms to restore surface sheet flow and expand wetland hydrology. Salvaged meadow sod and native vegetation will be reused to stabilize disturbed soils and fill shallow anthropogenic depressions. Along the intermittent tributary, project actions include lowering a breached berm to restore floodplain connectivity, installing beaver dam analogues (BDAs) with willow fascines, constructing a Zuni bowl to stabilize an active headcut, building an inset floodplain bench, and installing a broad-crested weir. A 1,400-square-foot pond will be reconstructed using a bentonite liner to support perennial surface water, including placement of turtle basking logs. Road-related erosion will be addressed by installing rolling dips, rock lenses, and underdrains; regrading eroded areas; and filling a drainage ditch currently intercepting spring flow.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include grading, berm removal in the meadow, channel excavation, pond reconstruction, and ditch filling. Permanent impacts are limited to long-term restoration structures and fill, including BDAs, willow fascines, a Zuni bowl, the broad-crested weir, ditch-fill materials, and the bentonite-lined pond. Project activities will result in restoration of 1.38 acre of wetland habitat.

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 in area and also those degrading ecological condition. Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-Project condition.

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake (pond)			
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone	0.187		
Stream Channel			
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	0.209		

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

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Lake (pond)	0.030		
Ocean/bay/estuary			
Riparian Zone	0.427		

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Stream Channel	0.017		
Vernal Pool			
Wetland	0.513		

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located at Windy Springs Meadow within the Sequoia National Forest. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 36.026 degrees North and longitude -118.102 degrees West.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The Project is expected to commence August 2026 with work activities and monitoring expected each summer until October 2030.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

\$1,123.00 was received on 28 May 2026. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(4), and was calculated as category D - Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Permittee shall follow notification and reporting requirements described in this Notice of Applicability (NOA), and those found in Attachment D of the Order WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, unless specified as an optional requirement and excluded from this NOA.

ANNUAL REPORTING:

The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year within one month of the anniversary of the effective date of this Notice of Applicability. Annual reporting shall continue until the active discharge period is complete and the project enters the post-construction monitoring phase where upon the Permittee shall annually submit a Post-Construction Monitoring Report (Report Type 2). The Post-Construction Monitoring Report shall be submitted on the anniversary of the date that the project restoration activities were completed.

The Annual Report and Post Construction Monitoring Report shall include the information specified in Attachment D, Part A of Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ. The Permittee shall submit the report in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment D of Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ and email it to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Brandon Salazar at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov. The WDID No. for this Project is 5C54CR00174.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

Upon completion of the Project, the Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete (NOC) Letter no later than 30 days after Project completion. The NOC request shall demonstrate the Project was carried out in accordance with the Project description, include a map of the Project location with final boundaries of the restoration

area, and include post-project photographs. More information on the NOC request is listed in section B (Report Type 4) of the Order.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Brandon Salazar at (559) 445-6287 or at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan
For Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachment 1 – Project Map

cc: Electronic copy only

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Sacramento District Headquarters
SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil

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Susan Mortenson
Wildscape Engineering

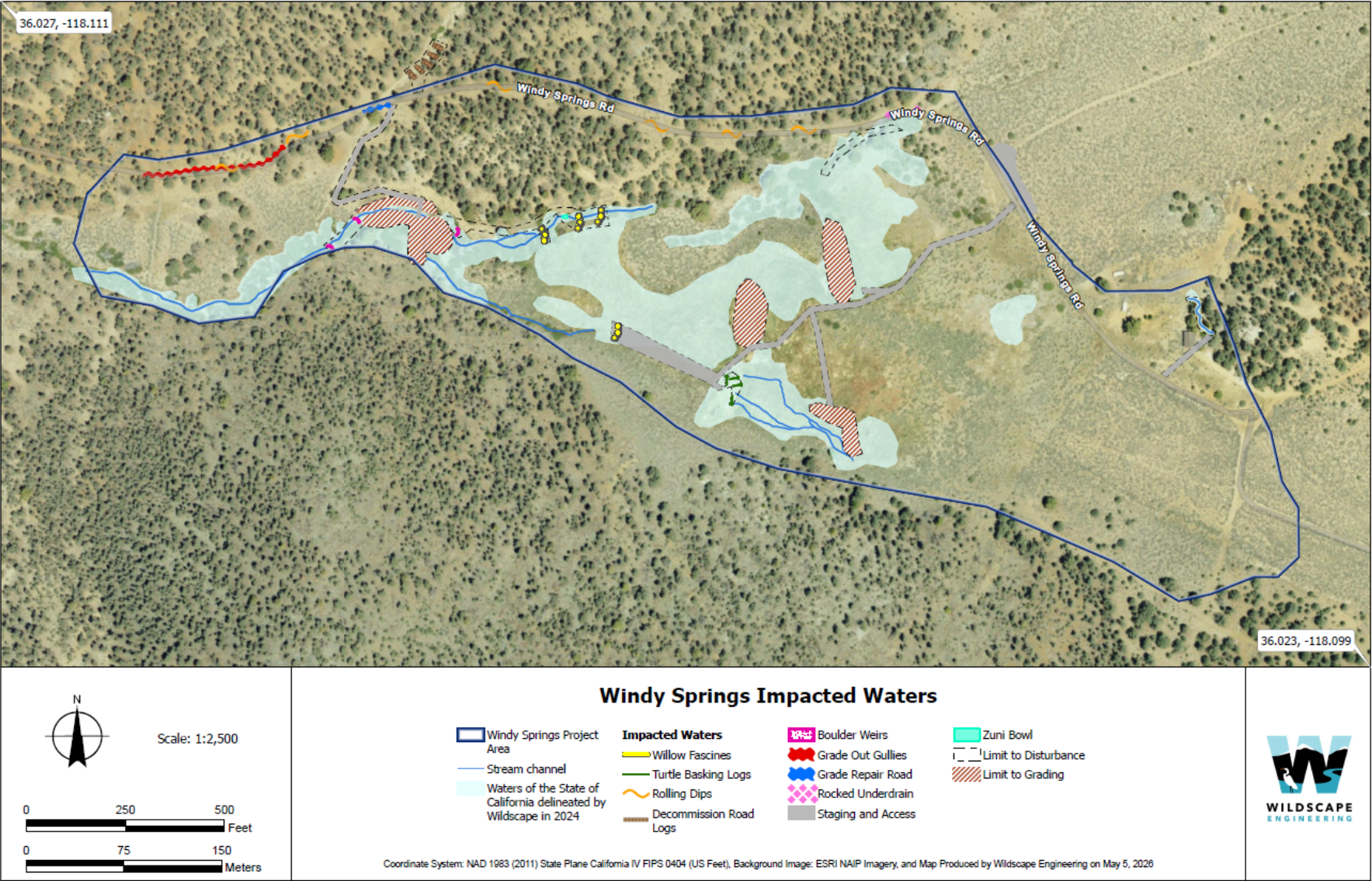


Figure 1: Project Activity and Impact Map