



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

5 May 2025

David Guy, President
Northern California Water Association
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 703
Sacramento, CA 95814

APPROVAL OF SACRAMENTO VALLEY WATER QUALITY COALITION'S REQUEST TO RELOCATE ILRP MONITORING SITE ON SHAG SLOUGH

Thank you for your letter dated 7 April 2025 requesting to relocate the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition's (Coalition) Integration surface water quality monitoring site located on Shag Slough. Staff reviewed the request to determine compliance with requirements pursuant to the Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2014-0030-11 (Order) and Attachment B (Monitoring and Reporting Program) to the Order.

Shag Slough at Liberty Island Bridge was an Integration surface water quality monitoring site which became inaccessible at the end of 2024. The proposed Prospect Slough along Channel Drive monitoring site meets the Order requirements for Integration site monitoring. Therefore, I approve the request to relocate the Integration monitoring site from Shag Slough at Liberty Island Bridge to Prospect Slough along Channel Drive. Please ensure the new monitoring site is assigned a new site code in the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) so data uploaded to the new monitoring site is associated with the new location.

If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Mathews via e-mail at Olivia.Mathews@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (530) 224-3215.

Adam Laputz  Digitally signed by Adam Laputz
Date: 2025.05.06 10:35:56 -0700
Water Boards

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Staff Review of Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition's Request to Relocate ILRP Monitoring Site on Shag Slough

Cc: Bruce Houdesheldt, Northern California Water Association



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Petra Lee
Senior Environmental Scientist
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

FROM: Olivia Mathews
Environmental Scientist
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

DATE: 28 April 2025

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF SACRAMENTO VALLEY WATER QUALITY COALITION'S REQUEST TO RELOCATE ILRP MONITORING SITE ON SHAG SLOUGH

In a letter dated 7 April 2025, the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) requested to relocate the Shag Slough Integration surface water quality monitoring site to Prospect Slough. The request must be reviewed to determine compliance with requirements pursuant to the Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2014-0030-11 (Order) and Attachment B (Monitoring and Reporting Program) to the Order.

According to the Monitoring and Reporting Program requirements, an Integration monitoring site is selected to represent very large and diverse drainages, which are most suitable for identifying cumulative effects and long-term trends in water quality.

A summary of the request is provided below, followed by the staff recommendation.

REQUEST TO RELOCATE THE MONITORING SITE ON SHAG SLOUGH

Historically, the sampling crew has accessed the Shag Slough at Liberty Island Bridge Integration monitoring site from the Liberty Island Bridge. However, the Coalition notified Central Valley Water Board staff in a letter dated 24 September 2024 that the Liberty Island Bridge was inaccessible due to construction activities to demolish and remove the bridge as part of the California Department of Water Resources' Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project. The bridge has since been removed, and the monitoring location is permanently inaccessible without a boat.

The Coalition performed reconnaissance in the northern region of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to locate a new Integration monitoring site to replace Shag Slough at Liberty Island Bridge. A field visit to the Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project site with the Department of Water Resources staff, Dixon/Solano Resource Conservation District staff, and Larry Walker Associates staff

on 23 September 2024 did not result in the identification of a suitable replacement monitoring site in the general area of the former Shag Slough site. Two site visits by Larry Walker Associates staff were made to Prospect Slough in West Sacramento on 25 October 2024 and 15 January 2025. The Coalition identified a replacement monitoring site on Prospect Slough along Channel Drive. The site is approximately three (3) miles south of the gate at the paved western terminus of Channel Drive in West Sacramento (38.51382, -121.58863). The proposed replacement Integration site on Prospect Slough along Channel Drive drains an upstream catchment area of approximately 1,255,000 acres, including lands within the Lake, Napa, Yolo, and Dixon/Solano Subwatersheds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Due to inaccessibility to sample at the Shag Slough at Liberty Island Bridge Integration monitoring site, the Coalition requests to relocate the Integration monitoring site to Prospect Slough along Channel Drive. The proposed Prospect Slough along Channel Drive monitoring site meets the Order requirements for Integration site monitoring and staff recommends approval of the request to relocate the Integration monitoring site. Please ensure the new monitoring site is assigned a new site code in the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) so data uploaded to the new monitoring site is associated with the new location.