



Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Captain Lawrence Vasquez  
Naval Base Ventura County Pt. Mugu  
311 Main Road, Suite 1  
Pt. Mugu, CA 93042

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
No. 7008 1140 0002 8671 9219

**TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED L&M AVENUES CULVERT REPAIR PROJECT (Corps' Project Non Notify), MUGU LAGOON, CITY OF POINT MUGU, VENTURA COUNTY (File No. 15-008)**

Dear Captain Vasquez:

Board staff has reviewed your request on behalf of Naval Base Ventura County Pt. Mugu (Applicant) for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the above-referenced project. Your application was deemed complete on March 19, 2015.

I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003 - 0017 - DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges that have received State Water Quality Certification" which requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Certification.

**Please read this entire document carefully.** The Applicant shall be liable civilly for any violations of this Certification in accordance with the California Water Code. This Certification does not eliminate the Applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws, requirements and/or permits.

Should you have questions concerning this Certification action, please contact Valerie Carrillo Zara, P.G., Lead, Section 401 Program, at (213) 576-6759.

Samuel Unger  
Samuel Unger, P.E.  
Executive Officer

June 22, 2015  
Date

## DISTRIBUTION LIST

Valerie Vartanian  
NBVC Environmental  
311 Main Road Ste 1  
Pt. Mugu, CA 93042

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(via electronic copy)  
Environmental Defense Center  
906 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Bill Orme (via electronic copy)  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Quality  
P.O. Box 944213  
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Jessie Altstatt (via electronic copy)  
Santa Barbara Channel Keeper  
714 Bond Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Joan Cardellino  
Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

Antal Szijj (via electronic copy)  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Branch, Ventura Field Office  
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Ventura, CA 93001

Paul Amato (via electronic copy)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
WRT-2-4  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Steve Henry (via electronic copy)  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA 93003

Amber Tysor (via electronic copy)  
California Coastal Commission  
South Central Coast Area  
89 South California St., Suite 200  
Ventura, Ca 93001

Ventura Coastkeeper (via electronic copy)  
Attn: Jason Weiner  
Associate Director and Staff Attorney  
3875-A Telegraph Road #423  
Ventura, CA 93003

ATTACHMENT A

Project Information  
File No. 15-008

1. Applicant: CAPT Lawrence Vasquez  
311 Main Road, Suite 1  
Pt. Mugu, CA 93042  
Phone: (805) 989-7903
2. Applicant's Agent: Valerie Vartanian  
311 Main Road Ste 1  
Pt. Mugu, CA 93042  
Phone: (805) 989-4740 Fax: (805) 989-1101

3. Project Name: L & M Avenues Culvert Repair

4. Project Location: Point Mugu, Ventura County

<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
L Ave	
34.106006	119.127561
34.105667	119.127749
34.105029	119.126825
34.105105	119.126303
M Ave	
34.108173	119.13001
34.108025	119.130162
34.107835	119.129472
34.107724	119.129672

5. Type of Project: Culver replacement and road infrastructure repair

6. Project Purpose: The purpose of this project is to repair deteriorating L and M Avenues, which are are utilized as ordinance haul routes and necessary to maintain for safe transport operations. L and M Avenues include two culvert causeways (one under each road), which are the main hydrologic access to the western portion of Mugu estuary. The road surface for both roads has deteriorated and a sink hole has opened up on L Avenue over the culvert. Replacing the collapsing culverts must occur before the roadways can be repaired.

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#### 7. Project Description:

There are six 48 inch corrugated metal pipes (CMPs) that cross under L Avenue and there are six 48 inch CMPs that cross under M Avenue. The top of the CMPs are approximately 5 feet below the surface of the road overpass. The metal has deteriorated and sinkholes have developed in the asphalt roadways. It is no longer safe for heavy truck traffic to transverse these deteriorated culverts. The asphalt pavement on L and M Avenues is cracked, breaking up, and heavily weathered especially in the sections over the culverts.

The project will replace the six deteriorated 48-inch CMPs under each road (12 total) with concrete box culverts. The box culverts are 5 feet high by 10 feet wide and 60 feet long and will be placed side by side in the footprint of the CMPs. The potential maximum flow area through the existing CMPs is approximately 75 square feet. The box culverts would increase the existing allowable flow area by approximately 30 percent (25 square feet) within the same footprint now occupied by the set of 6 CMPs. The bottom elevation of the new box culverts will match the channel bottom that exist in the current CMPs which will allow more free flow and accommodate limited future rise in sea level.

Each road site will be done in two phases to allow continuous tidal flow during construction. Three temporary 36-inch bypass pipes will be placed through the existing pipes on the half that is not being replaced. Once the box culvert is in place, the work will shift sides allowing flow through the new culvert while the second set of 3 CMPs are replaced. It is anticipated that the lag time for tidal activity will be negligible and should not have an effect on fish habitat or other lagoon organisms.

Water filled bags will create a soft dam that will lie across the channel floor to seal off the construction work zone and also minimize turbidity in the surrounding wetland. The water filled bags shall be place over and around the bypass pipes to maintain a seal. As water is pumped from the construction zone behind the soft dam it shall run through a series of weir tanks prior to returning to the lagoon to avoid deposition of any sediment.

Aggregate base bedding material will be placed under the new box culverts to provide support. Grouted riprap will be placed along the outer wing walls approximately 20 feet on each side to prevent erosion. The grouted rip rap will be brought to approximately 2 feet

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### Project Information File No. 15-008

above high tide level and sloped back to the roadway and on top of the box culvert to prevent erosion on the sides of the roadway.

8. Federal Agency/Permit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
NWP No. 3 (Non notify)
9. Other Required Regulatory Approvals: Coastal Commission  
Notification
10. California Environmental Quality Act Compliance: The proposed project is Categorically Exempt from CEQA pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15302 Replacement or Reconstruction.
11. Receiving Water: Mugu Lagoon (Hydrologic Unit Code: 180701030202)
12. Designated Beneficial Uses: NAV, REC-1, REC-2, COMM, EST, MAR, WILD, BIOL, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, SHELL, WET
13. Impacted Waters of the United States: Estuary: 1.5 temporary acres (600 temporary linear feet)
14. Dredge Volume: None
15. Related Projects Implemented/to be Implemented by the Applicant: The Applicant has not identified any related projects carried out in the last 5 years or planned for implementation in the next 5 years.
16. Avoidance/Minimization Activities: The Applicant has proposed to implement several Best Management Practices, including, but not limited to, the following:
- The lagoon channel that passes under each of the road overpasses will have partial dams in place to minimize the amount of water in the work area.
  - All disturbances of the lagoon channel will occur within the footprint of the dams and during low tide events.
  - Only half of the site will be restricted at a time, so overall tidal flow will be maintained.

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- All heavy equipment will be staged on the existing road overpass.
- If enough water accumulates within the dammed work site, pumps will extract the water and run it through settling tanks to capture sediments before returning the water to the channel.
- The pumped water will be passed through 2 weir tanks to allow sediment to settle out before returning to the tidal channel. Those sediments will be taken off base and disposed of appropriately.
- The minimum number of workers will be allowed in the channels during construction activities and only when absolutely necessary.
- Work will occur outside of bird nesting season.

17. Proposed  
Compensatory  
Mitigation:

The Applicant has not proposed any compensatory mitigation.

18. Required  
Compensatory  
Mitigation:

The Regional Board will not require any additional compensatory mitigation for this project. The project will be replacing existing facilities and structures in-kind.

See *Attachment B, Conditions of Certifications, Additional Conditions* for modifications and additions to the above proposed compensatory mitigation.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Conditions of Certification File No. 15-008

#### STANDARD CONDITIONS

Pursuant to §3860 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR), the following three standard conditions shall apply to this project:

1. This Certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to §13330 of the California Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with 23 CCR §3867).
2. This Certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent Certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR Subsection 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
3. Certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required pursuant to 23 CCR Chapter 28 and owed by the Applicant.

#### ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

Pursuant to 23 CCR §3859(a), the Applicant shall comply with the following additional conditions:

1. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board copies of any other final permits and agreements required for this project, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) Section 404 Permit. **These documents shall be submitted prior to any discharge to waters of the State.**
2. The Applicant shall adhere to the most stringent conditions indicated with either this Certification, or the ACOE Section 404 Permit.
3. The Applicant shall comply with all water quality objectives, prohibitions, and policies set forth in the *Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region (1994)*, as amended.
4. The Avoidance/Minimization activities proposed by the Applicant as described in Attachment A, No. 16, are incorporated as additional conditions herein.
5. The Applicant and all contractors employed by the Applicant shall have copies of this Certification, the approved, and all other regulatory approvals for this project on site at all times and shall be familiar with all conditions set forth.

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### Conditions of Certification File No. 15-008

6. Fueling, lubrication, maintenance, operation, and storage of vehicles and equipment shall not result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. At no time shall the Applicant use any vehicle or equipment which leaks any substance that may impact water quality. Staging and storage areas for vehicles and equipment shall be located outside of waters of the State.
7. All excavation, construction, or maintenance activities shall follow best management practices to minimize impacts to water quality and beneficial uses. Dust control activities shall be conducted in such a manner that will not produce downstream runoff.
8. No construction material, spoils, debris, or any other substances associated with this project that may adversely impact water quality standards, shall be located in a manner which may result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State.
9. All waste or dredged material removed shall be relocated to a legal point of disposal if applicable. A legal point of disposal is defined as one for which Waste Discharge Requirements have been established by a California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and is in full compliance therewith.
10. The Applicant shall implement all necessary control measures to prevent the degradation of water quality from the proposed project in order to maintain compliance with the Basin Plan. The discharge shall meet all effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established to comply with the applicable water quality standards and other appropriate requirements, including the provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act. This Certification does not authorize the discharge by the applicant for any other activity than specifically described in the 404 Permit.
11. The discharge shall not: a) degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species; b) promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests; c) alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters; d) cause formation of sludge deposits; or e) adversely affect any designated beneficial uses.
12. The Applicant shall allow the Regional Board and its authorized representative entry to the premises, including all mitigation sites, to inspect and undertake any activity to determine compliance with this Certification, or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code.
13. Application of pesticides must be supervised by a certified applicator and be in conformance with manufacturer's specifications for use. Compounds used must be appropriate to the target species and habitat. All pesticides directed toward aquatic species must be approved by the Regional Board. Pesticide utilization shall be in accordance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order Nos. 2011-0003-DWQ, for Aquatic Animal

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Invasive Species Control; 2011-0004-DWQ, for Spray Applications; 2011-0002-DWQ, for Vector Control; and 2013-0002-DWQ, for Weed Control.

14. The Applicant shall not conduct any construction activities within waters of the State during a rainfall event. The Applicant shall maintain a **five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast** before conducting any operations within waters of the State.
15. The Applicant shall utilize the services of a qualified biologist with expertise in riparian assessments during any vegetation clearing activities. The biologist shall be available on site during construction activities to ensure that all protected areas are marked properly and ensure that no vegetation outside the specified areas is removed. The biologist shall have the authority to stop the work, as necessary, if instructions are not followed. The biologist shall be available upon request from this Regional Board for consultation within 24 hours of request of consultation.
16. No activities shall involve wet excavations (i.e., no excavations shall occur below the seasonal high water table). A minimum **5-foot** buffer zone shall be maintained above the existing groundwater level. If construction or groundwater dewatering is proposed or anticipated, the Applicant shall file a **Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD)** to this Regional Board and obtain any necessary NPDES permits/Waste Discharge Requirements prior to discharging waste.  
  
Sufficient time should be allowed to obtain any such permits (generally 180 days). If groundwater is encountered without the benefit of appropriate permits, the Applicant shall cease all activities in the areas where groundwater is present, file a Report of Waste Discharge to this Regional Board, and obtain any necessary permits prior to discharging waste.
17. All project/maintenance activities not included in this Certification, and which may require a permit, must be reported to the Regional Board for appropriate permitting. Bank stabilization and grading, as well as any other ground disturbances, are subject to restoration and revegetation requirements, and may require additional Certification action.
18. All surface waters, including ponded waters, shall be diverted away from areas undergoing grading, construction, excavation, vegetation removal, and/or any other activity which may result in a discharge to the receiving water. If surface water diversions are anticipated, the Applicant shall develop and submit a **Surface Water Diversion Plan (plan)** to this Regional Board. The plan shall include the proposed method and duration of diversion activities, structure configuration, construction materials, equipment, erosion and sediment controls, and a map or drawing indicating the locations of diversion and discharge points. Contingency measures shall be a part of this plan to address various flow discharge rates. The plan shall be submitted prior to any surface water diversions. If surface flows are present, then upstream and downstream monitoring for the following shall be implemented:

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- pH
- temperature
- dissolved oxygen
- turbidity
- total suspended solids(TSS)

Analyses must be performed using approved US Environmental Protection Agency methods, where applicable. These constituents shall be measured at least once prior to diversion and then monitored for on a daily basis during the first week of diversion and/or dewatering activities, and then on a weekly basis, thereafter, until the in-stream work is complete.

Results of the analyses shall be submitted to this Regional Board by the 15th day of each subsequent sampling month. A map or drawing indicating the locations of sampling points shall be included with each submittal. Diversion activities shall not result in the degradation of beneficial uses or exceedance of water quality objectives of the receiving waters. Downstream TSS shall be maintained at ambient levels. Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), increases shall not exceed 20%. Where natural turbidity is greater than 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 10%. Any such violations may result in corrective and/or enforcement actions, including increased monitoring and sample collection.

**Results of the analyses shall be submitted to this Regional Board by the 15th day of each subsequent sampling month.** A map or drawing indicating the locations of sampling points shall be included with each submittal. Construction activities shall not result in the degradation of beneficial uses or non-compliance of any water quality objectives. Any such violations may result in corrective and/or enforcement actions, including increased monitoring and sample collection.

19. The Applicant shall restore **all areas** of TEMPORARY IMPACTS to waters of the United States and all other areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. Restoration shall include grading of disturbed areas to pre-project contours and revegetation with native species.
20. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board a **Final Monitoring Report** by **January 1<sup>st</sup>** of the year following project completion. The Annual Reports shall describe in detail all of the project/construction activities performed during the previous year and all restoration and mitigation efforts. The At a minimum the Annual Reports shall include the following documentation:
  - (a) Color photo documentation of the pre- and post-project and mitigation site conditions;
  - (b) Geographical Positioning System (GPS) coordinates in decimal-degrees format outlining the boundary of the project and mitigation areas;

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**Conditions of Certification  
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- (c) The overall status of project including a detailed schedule;
  - (d) Copies of all permits revised as required in Additional Condition 1;
  - (e) Water quality monitoring results for each reach (as required) compiled in a spreadsheet format;
  - (f) A certified Statement of “no net loss” of wetlands associated with this project;
  - (g) Discussion of any monitoring activities and exotic plant control efforts; and
  - (h) A certified Statement from the permittee or his/her representative that all conditions of this Certification have been met.
21. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Board shall be signed:
- (a) For corporations, by a principal executive officer at least of the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if such representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which discharge originates.
  - (b) For a partnership, by a general partner.
  - (c) For a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor.
  - (d) For a municipal, State, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.
22. Each and any report submitted in accordance with this Certification shall contain the following completed declaration:

“I declare under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who managed the system or those directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Executed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
(Title)”

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23. All communications regarding this project and submitted to this Regional Board shall identify the Project File Number **15-008**. Submittals shall be sent to the attention of the 401 Certification Unit.
24. Any modifications of the proposed project may require submittal of a new Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification application and appropriate filing fee.
25. . The project shall also comply with all requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) **General Permit** for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Order No. 2012-0011-DWQ. All stormwater treatment systems shall be located outside of any water of the State and shall not be used as a wetland or riparian mitigation credit.
26. Coverage under this Certification may be transferred to the extent the underlying federal permit may legally be transferred and further provided that the Applicant notifies the Executive Officer at least 30 days before the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new Applicants containing a specific date of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this Certification, and liability between them.
27. The Applicant or their agents shall report any noncompliance. Any such information shall be provided verbally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
28. *Enforcement:*
  - (a) In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under State law. For purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Certification.
  - (b) In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Certification, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) or Regional Water Quality Control Board

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(RWQCB) may require the holder of any permit or license subject to this Certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the SWRCB deems appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall be a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.

- (c) In response to any violation of the conditions of this Certification, the SWRCB or RWQCB may add to or modify the conditions of this Certification as appropriate to ensure compliance.
29. This Certification shall expire **five (5) years** from date of this Certification. The Applicant shall submit a complete application at least 90 days prior to termination of this Certification if renewal is requested.

